Iowa Chess News

En Passant

Volume 57, Issue 4 Iowa State Chess Association October 2017

PATRON MEMBERS

Roger Alexander, Mark Capron, Richard Couch, Tim Crouse, Benjamin Darr, Thomas Daufeldt, Ana Denison, Christine Denison, Patrick Earney, Jim Freerksen, Geoffry Hadlock, Gerald Hawkins, Thomas Hesse, James Hodina, Robert Keating, Matthew Kriegel, Trevor Magness, Ben Munson, Samuel Naylor IV, Ron Nurmi, Steve Patterson, Luis Peralta, Dr. Carl Peters, Richard Rector, Robert Reynolds, Arshaq Saleem, Abhyudaya Shukla, Sam Smith, Sanmati Thangavel, Gokul Thangavel, Robert Vance, Eric Vigil, Mitch Weiss, Jim White, Joe Willett, Jasmin Zulic, Illowa Club

The names of Patron members will be listed in every issue of *En Passant*. The extra money will be added to the IASCA budget and spent as the membership directs.

Chess Journalist of America Award Winning Newsletter

GM Timur Gareyev accepting the Iowa Open 1st place plaque from IASCA President Eric Vigil. Luke Schaeckenbach and Bethany Carson winners of the Iowa Open Reserve. None of these players lost a single game.

October 14th. 2017 Loras College Double Trouble 1. The Loras College Chess Club and the Iowa State Chess Association are pleased to host the 2017 Loras College Double Trouble, A mulita-generational fun chess event. A **K-12 Scholastic** Section (K-12) and an **Open** section. Loras College Ballroom 4th floor in the Alumni Campus Center, 1450 Alta Vista St., Dubuque, IA. Time Control: K-12 G/30 d5, Open G/40 d5. Rds: **Grades K – 12**, 5 rounds. Rd 1: 10:00, Rd 2: 11:00, Rd 3: 1:00 pm, Rounds 4 & 5 ASAP. **Open**, 4 rounds, Rd 1: 10:00 , Rds 2, 3 & 4 ASAP. **Prizes**: **Scholastic K-12**: Trophies to Top 5 scores overall, Top score each grade. **Open** section 1st place $100, 2nd $50, 3rd Place $25 based on 16 entries (60% payout). **Entry Fee**: $20 for **Open** and $15 for **Scholastic**. USCF Membership is required. Memberships are available on site. **Registration**: 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM. Send early fees to: Eric Vigil, 445 Galway Dr, Iowa City, IA 52246 or Register online at www.onlineregistration.cc. **Additional Info**: Register by email and then pay on-site is acceptable. Include Name, USCF ID, Section, with your registration. **Byes**: Half-point bye available any round if requested before Rd 1. **Contact**: Eric Vigil, 445 Galway Dr, Iowa City, IA 52246, Ph: 319-621-3116, **Email**: evigil@gmail.com. Free Scholastic Membership with entry fee if expired, new or within 1 month of expiration.

October 21. Moline Chess Open. An IASCA (Iowa) GP Mini-Qualifier. 4-SS. Western Illinois University-Quad-City Campus, the Western Illinois Leathernecks Chess Club and the Illowa Bi-State Chess Club of the Quad-Cities invite chess players of all skills levels from Iowa and Illinois (and other states) participate in the Moline Chess Open. 4 round Swiss; Two divisions 1. Open: 2. Unrated: For beginning chess players and those who are not members of the USCF. Western Illinois Quad-City Campus, 3300 River Drive, Moline, Ill., Riverfront Hall, rooms 103-104. Directions to playing site: Take River Drive exit from I-74. Proceed east. The campus is 1 mile east of I-74 on River Drive**. Time Control**: Open: G/65; D 5. Unrated: G/30. **Rds**: Rounds/open: 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m., 7 p.m.; Unrated: 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m., 2:30 p.m. **Prizes**: Open: 1st $250, 2nd $150, 3rd $100; $50 top under 1400 Unrated: 1st chess clock and chess set, 2nd through 5th, chess set. **Entry Fee**: Open: $30, Unrated: $10. **Registration**: 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. USCF and Iowa State Chess Association memberships required. **Send Entry Fees** to: Rick Rector, 3614 N. Thornwood Ave., Davenport, Iowa, 52806. **Additional Info**: Bring sets and clocks. For more information/registration: Rick Rector, rrector@mchsi.com, 563-940-0179; Luis Peralta, peraltaluis@hotmail.com, 309-737-2890

November 11, 2017. 2017 Cedar Rapids Open. 4-SS, G/65; +5 sec. One Day Open, IASCA Mini-Qualifier. *Accerated pairings will be used.* Physician Clinic of Iowa, Community Room, 202 10th Street SE, 3rd Floor, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403. **Reg:** On Site: 8:30 am to 9:30 am. **Rds:** Rd 1: 10:00 am, Rd 2: 1:00 pm, Rd 3: 3:30 pm, Rd 4: 6:30 pm. **EF:** $30 in advance. $40 on site. **Prize Info:** (Based on 29 Entries) 1st Place = $150, 2nd Place = $100, U1900, U1700, U1500, U1300, U1100, $60 each. **US Chess Federation (USCF) membership required.** On-Site Available.**IASCA membership required**, $10 Regular or $25 for Patron. On-Site Available. **Send Entry Fee:** Payable to Chess in Iowa, c/o James Hodina, 3411 Blue Pointe Ct. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404, www.chessiniowa.org, james.hodina@chessiniowa.org. **Additional Info:** www.chessiniowa.org; james.hodina@chessiniowa.org; 319-432-1459.

Nov. 11. ICPL Totally Tweens Tournament. G30. Unrated Grades tournament. We try to fit in as many rounds of g30 no delay as we can from 1pm to 5pm at the Iowa City Public Library 3rd through 6th Grade, under 3rd grade can play if USCF member. Players over 1000 USCF rating are in their own "Hot Shots" section. Hot shots section is rated. Iowa City Public Library 123 S Linn St, Iowa City, IA 52240. Rounds: 1 p.m. then ASAP. Prizes: Trophies for top three in grades 3-6 and best Young Player. Also trophy for Top Hot Shot player. Entry Fee: Free. Registration: Noon – 12:30. USCF membership not required except for Hot Shots section. Send Entry information to: email evigil@gmail.com to register. Include name, grade, school, USCF membership number if known. Additional Info: In memory of Steve Young, free pencil for all participants.

Nov. 18-19 All Americas Chess Women's Youth Championship. 5-SS in 3 Sections for women and girls under the age of 25 (as of Jan 01, 2017). At the Sheraton Chicago O'Hare Airport Hotel located at the corner of Mannheim & Higgins Roads, Chicago, IL. Just 1 block north of O'Hare remote parking Lot F along Mannheim. **U25** [$3600G in cash prizes]: $900-550-330-160, U2100 $350-200, U1900 $310-170, U1700 $270-140, U1500/Unr. $220 T/L: G/90, + 30 increment [Alt T/L: G/2 d5]. **U18**

Trophies to Top 7 overall, Top 2 U1600, Top 2 U1400, Top U1200/Unrated, Top 2 teams, Top U1400 team [teams are 2-5 players, with top 3 scores counting; club teams allowed. Team average is avg. of all rated players on team] T/L; G/90 + 30 increment [Alt T/L:G/2 d5]. **U12** Trophies to Top 7 overall, Top 2 U1300, Top 2 U1100, Top 2 U900, Top 3 U700, Top 3 U500, Top Unr; Top 2 teams, Top U1000 team, Top U600 team [Team info/qualifying same as U18 section]. T/L: G/75 + 30 increment [Alt T/L: G/90 d5]. Rds for U12 10-2-6:30, 9:30-1:30. Rds U25 & U18 10-2:30-7:30, 9:30-2. ALL: Awards start 5pm. FREE Pizza Buffet Saturday Evening for all players [Pizza, Salad, Cookies, Lemonade & Ice Tea], Raffle Prizes. TOURNAMENT is limited to about 320 players. All EF $10 more at site [11/17 8-9pm], if space allows. U25 EF: $88 by 10/15, $95 by 11/9; U18 EF: $63 by 10/15, $75 by 11/9; U12 EF: $50 by 10/15, $65 by 11/9. Bring boards, sets & clocks as limited number are available. HR $109, & should be reserved by 10/27 to ensure rate & room availability. Credit card payment at Eventbrite.com [Women's Youth Chess Championship]. Mail entries [payable to] Lawrence Cohen, P.O. Box 6632, Villa Park, IL 60181. Info: allamericaschess@gmail.com. W.

Nov 18-19. Great Plains Open. A Nebraska POY Event. Open Section is USCF & FIDE Rated. 5-SS. G/90; 30 second increment from move one. Country Inn & Suites, 5353 North 27th Street, Lincoln, NE 68521. (located just 1 mile south of the 27th & I-80 exit). **Rounds**: Saturday 10 am, 2:30 pm & 7:30 pm Sunday 10 am & 2:30 pm. **Prizes**: Based on 30 paid entries: 1st $300 (Guaranteed), 2nd $150, 3rd $100; U1800: 1st $125; U1600: 1st $125; U1400: 1st $100. **Registration**: 9 to 9:45 am, Saturday November 18th. USCF November rating list used. Unrated eligible for U1400 prizes. **Entry Fee**: $45 if post-marked by November 12th. $60 onsite—cash only. USCF membership required. USCF membership required. Please call or email John Linscott with any questions at 402.314.2338 or john@greenleafproperties.com. Please send Advance Entry to John Linscott, 7301 Twin Oaks Rd., Lincoln, NE 68516. Make check or money order payable to John Linscott. Email confirmation of receipt will be sent. **Byes**: Only one ½-point bye is allowed per player for the tournament. Byes for rounds 1—4 may be requested up to 30 minutes prior to round start time. Byes for round 5 must be requested during registration. **Equipment**: Bring clocks, sets & boards. **Alternate contact**: 515-205-8062 Bill Broich

Nov 18. Great Plains RBO. 5-SS. G/30. Country Inn & Suites, 5353 North 27th Street, Lincoln, NE 68521. (located just 1 mile south of the 27th & I-80 exit). Open to players U1200 & Unrated. **Rounds**: Round 1 will start at 10:30 am, with rounds 2-5 starting 15 minutes after the completion of all games in the preceding round. **Prizes**: Trophies to 1st, 2nd & 3rd; U1000 1st, 2nd & 3rd; U800 1st, 2nd & 3rd; U600 1st, 2nd & 3rd. Tie-breaks: 1) Modified Median, 2) Solkoff, 3) Cumulative. **Registration**: 9 to 10:15 am. **Entry Fee**: $20 if post-marked by November 12th. $25 onsite—cash only. USCF membership required. USCF membership required. Please call or email John Linscott with any questions at 402.314.2338 or john@greenleafproperties.com. Please send Advance Entry to John Linscott, 7301 Twin Oaks Rd., Lincoln, NE 68516. Make check or money order payable to John Linscott. Email confirmation of receipt will be sent. **Equipment**: Bring clocks, sets & boards. **Alternate contact**: 515-205-8062 Bill Broich

Nov 25. Post Turkey Gambit. 4-SS Open and 5-SS for RBO, G40 d5 Open section, G30 d5 5. Bethany Lutheran Church 2515 Madison Ave, Burlington, IA 52601. **Rds**: 10 then ASAP for the Open, 10, 11, 1pm then ASAP for the RBO. **Prizes**: Chess Book for best upset in each section. and the thought that entry fees will be spent feeding the hungry this holiday season. **Entry Fee**: $10, all surplus money will go to feed the hungry. Minus tournament costs. **Registration**: 9 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. USCF membership is required. **Additional info**: I would also like to share memories of Carl Dunn before the tournament starts. Pastor Paul at Bethany Lutheran Church would like to start a chess club in Burlington. Please contact him if you are interested. **Contact**: Eric G. Vigil evigil@gmail.com.

Dec. 2 Loras Chess Club Open and RBO
RDS.: 5SS, G/30 d5. Loras College Ballroom 4th fl in the Alumni Campus Center, 1450 Alta Vista St., Dubuque, IA 52001. **Rds RBO.:** 10:00am; 11:00am; 1pm; Then ASAP. **EF:** $15. **PZ:** Trophy 1st- 5th Place, top player each grade K-12. **Open Section: EF:** $20. G/40 d5. 4SS. 1st place $100, 2nd $50, 3rd $25 b/o 16 entries (60% payout). 10:00-12:00-then ASAP. **Ent:** Eric Vigil, 445 Galway Dr., Iowa City, IA 52246. evigil@gmail.com, 319-621-3116 or https://www.onlineregistration.cc/. Additional Info: Free Scholastic Membership if new or expired with entry fee.

IASCA Board of Directors

President (2018):
Eric Vigil
445 Galway Dr.
Iowa City, IA 52246
evigil@gmail.com

USCF Delegate (2017):
Eric Vigil
445 Galway Dr.
Iowa City, IA 52246
evigil@gmail.com

USCF Delegate (2018)
Christine Denison
5405 Thackery Drive
Ames, IA 50021
christinealicia@gmail.com

At-Large Director (2019):
Bill Broich
7149 Wilshire Blvd.
Windsor Heights, IA 50322
broich01@yahoo.com

Secretary (2020):
Jim Freerksen
P.O. Box 41817
Des Moines, IA 50311
james.freerksen@drake.edu

Webmaster:
Bethany Carson
15898 D Ave
Ackley, IA 50601
bethany.carson@outlook.com

At-Large Director (2018):
James Hodina
3411 Blue Pt. Ct. SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
james.hodina@mchsi.com

At-Large Director(2018):
Bethany Carson
15898 D Ave
Ackley, IA 50601
bethany.carson@outlook.com

USCF Delegate (2018) Alt
Robert Vance
1612 Carrie Ave
Des Moines, IA 50315
rsvance1972@gmail.com

Treasurer (2019):
En Passant Editor:
Mark Capron
3123 Juniper Drive
Iowa City, IA 52245
mcapron243@mchsi.com

At-Large Director (2019):
Robert Keating
830 4th Ave
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
rfkeatingmd@msn.com

Scholastic Chairman:
Open

Clearinghouse Director:
Daniel Carson
15898 D Ave
Ackley, IA 50601
danielcarson715@yahoo.com

Table of Contents: **Page**

Tournament Life 2
Hello From the Editor 5
Puzzle Time 5
In Memory of Carl E Dunn — Eric Vigil 6
Delegates Report — Eric Vigil 7
Cedar Rapids Quick — Mark Capron 8
2017 Barber Tournament — Anish Lodh 9
2017 Denker Tournament — NM Arshaq Saleem 11
63rd Iowa Open — Mark Capron 14
NM Robert Keating Annotates 23, 26
GM Priyadharshan Kannappan Annotates 25
GM Alex Yermolinsky Annotates 28, 36
NM Joseph Wan Annotates 29, 39
NM Trevor Magness Annotates 30
Ben Darr Annotates 33
IM Sean Nagle Annotates 38
Schmakel Earns IM Norm — Bill Broich 41
Zootacular — Paul Rafac 44
Iowa Chess Hall of Fame—Mark Capron 46
New & Returning Members 46
Qualifying Point Standings 47

Join the Iowa State Chess Association!

The Iowa State Chess Association is a non-profit organization devoted exclusively to the promotion of chess in Iowa.

Join or renew by sending dues to the IASCA Secretary:

Eric Vigil (temporarily)
445 Galway Dr.
Iowa City, IA 52246

Or Join on our website via Iowa-Chess.org

Membership Dues:

Regular	$10 for 1 year
	$20 for 2 years
Patron:	$25 per year
Affiliates:	$15 per year
Family:	$20 per year
Library:	$25 per year

Hello From the Editor:

Inside you will find contributions from: Alex Yermolinsky, Sean Nagle, Priyadharshan Kannappan, Trevor Magness, Robert Keating, Joseph Wan, Benjamin Darr, Eric Vigil, Arnie Gatton, James Freerksen, Arshaq Saleem, Anish Lodh, Bill Broich, Mitch Weiss, Paul Rafac, and Bethany Carson. Photos by Eric Vigil, Mark Capron, Arnie Gatton, and Bethany Carson,.

Again this issue is full of annotated games. Note we are unable to publish all the games from the Iowa Open in this newsletter, but I will put a pgn file on the website with all of them. Thank you to Arshaq Saleem and Gokul Thangavel who helped me enter all of them.

Congrats to Joseph Wan and Valeriy Kosokin who each snagged 15.75 qualifying points at the Iowa Open as the top scoring Iowans. Congrats to GM Timur Gareyev who won the Iowa Open in undefeated fashion and GM Alex Yermolinsky who secured second.

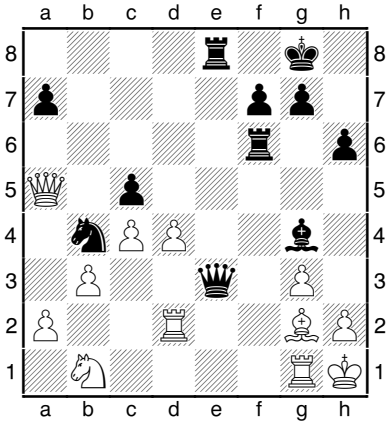
The En Passant won a Chess Journalist of America award for the report on last years Iowa Open where IM Sean Nagle and NM Joseph Wan both annotated the game they played against each other.

James Freerksen has decided to resign as secretary (see letter on page 7). It looks like Ming Lodh may become the new secretary by appointment.

I am sad to report we have lost a former IASCA president, Carl E. Dunn. Carl passed away on September 6. Eric has written a nice tribute on page 6.

As always when you see chess news please submit it. —Mark Capron

Puzzle Time:



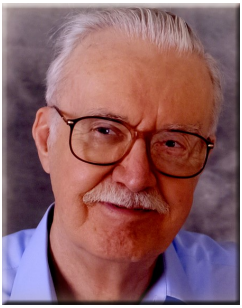
Black to move and win (there is a mate in 9)

En Passant Advertising Rates:

Full Page:	$50
Half Page:	$25
Quarter Page:	$15
Back Page:	$100
TLA (non-IASCA affiliate):	$5
TLA (IASCA affiliate):	$0

Deadline for Contributions to the next issue of the *Iowa Chess News En Passant* are Due Dec 10, 2017. The *Iowa Chess News En Passant* is published quarterly by the Iowa State Chess Association. The views expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the IASCA. None of the contents of the *Iowa Chess News En Passant* may be republished in any manner without the written consent of the editor.

In Memory of Carl E Dunn



Former Iowa Chess president President Carl E. Dunn passed away yesterday Sept 6th.

I first met Carl at the Lee County Fair Chess tournament, which Carl pointed out was the longest continuously running chess tournament in the state. He asked me how being president was, and that he was a former IASCA president in the 1970's. He said back then most of the Association was in Des Moines and that they changed the rules to encourage more board members to be representative of the rest of the state of Iowa, the rule that the board members should be distributed as evenly as possible among congressional districts to get some of the power away from the Des Moines Metro area. I believe that was part of rewriting Iowa's Chess Constitution.

He ran the Port of Burlington Open for many years, which I have rekindled the last four years. He came to the first two and played. I remember the joy he had knowing there was another major chess tournament in his home town. I loved picking his brain about current chess issues and I just loved listening to him talk. Especially one day I invited Carl and Sam Naylor to lunch. I drove to Burlington and picked up Carl, then we met Sam Perkins, we talked for hours. I enjoyed the stories of Iowa's Chess Past. I will pay tribute to Carl at this years annual Port of Burlington Open. He was a great chess player and human being in general.

Eric G. Vigil
President
IASCA

From left to right are Doc VanWinkle, the Host of the tournament, Jesse VanWinkle, the 2016 Fair Champion, handing the Aulden VanWinkle Traveling Clock Trophy to Sam Naylor, the 2017 Champion. Doug Campbell Tournament Director stands by Sam.

Delegates Meeting Report 118th US Open meeting Norfolk, VA Aug 2017

Dr. Robert Keating and I (Eric Vigil) attended the meeting. Dr. Keating filled a vacant seat from our neighboring state of Minnesota.

Presidents report was fabulous.

Right now US Chess is fat dumb and happy with a 1.7 million surplus. That money will be going to sponsor more players in international events and! Major Revamp of the webpage. I don't know if you realize this but the US Chess Website is actually 3 or 4 websites cobbled together with links to each other. They estimate it will take $250,000 to do the job right and make the website cohesive.

Outlined by the president were the 4 strengths of US Chess
1. Ratings system (everybody loves it)
2. Publications
3. Strong and competent tournament directors
4. Excellent National events.

Iowa was called out by name for not having a women's coordinator for our state affiliate. I nominated Heidi Pierce and she has accepted the invitation.

Major legislative issues included:

Minors involved in ethics cases (and all participants) will be presumed innocent until proven guilty and referred to as Plaintiff and respondent (instead of defendant)

The Senior tournament of Champions was approved, so our top player over 50 will be invited to participate with over 50 players from all the other states in Madison Wisconsin and the 119th US Open. Next year we will have a similar senior championship event. Although others have suggested a point system similar to our closed championship series. We will discuss it at the 2018 annual meeting.

TD certification was changed from an 8 player round robin with average rating of 1800 to 1400 to encourage TD's in more rural/isolated areas to achieve higher certification.

Rules Change
29E8 Team Pairings take precedence over color equalization in a combined swiss individual and team tournament, the need to avoid pairing players from the same team shall take precedence over the need to equalize colors
(honestly we kind of do this anyway…. But now it is official)

James Freerksen has decided to resign as Secretary citing school, second baby, and other issues as he is not able to fully concentrate his energies on the position.

He will be submitting his resignation to the Board.

I want to thank James for trying to do the position and making it work. I know that it is an unpaid volunteer position and it takes time and energy that are not reimbursed other than a warm glow in your heart for chess.

I am sorry that it didn't work out, and I wish James success in his other chess en-devours.

Eric G. Vigil
President IASCA

2017 Cedar Rapids Quick Chess Championship

July 15, 2017 Cedar Rapids, IA TD: James Hodina

As tradition has it, the Saturday evening of the CR Chess Workshop there is a Quick Chess event. This year 30 players competed. Daniel Brashaw took the title only giving up a draw to pre-tournament highest rated player Erik Santarius. Erik ended up a point back by drawing with James Hodina and roommate Alex Betaneli. The largest upset of the event was when Owen Fiedorowicz defeated Alex Betaneli. Owen showed the largest rating gain, 138 points! Not far behind was his father Jess with a 115 point increase. Aman Reddy also increased 135 rating points. The tournament was held at the Kirkwood Hotel in SW Cedar Rapids.

#	Player	St	Pre	Post	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	T
1	Brashaw, Daniel	IA	2147*	2159*	W15	W11	W9	D2	W4	W12	W7	6.5
2	Santarius, Erik	WI	2287*	2279*	W14	W5	W6	D1	W12	D7	D3	5.5
3	Betaneli, Alex	WI	2240*	2222*	W19	W10	D4	L12	W6	W9	D2	5.0
4	Thangavel, Gokul	IA	1830*	1850*	W20	W18	D3	D6	L1	W11	W10	5.0
5	Hesse, Thomas	IA	1677*	1695*	W26	L2	W19	W22	L7	W13	W9	5.0
6	Wan, Joseph Cheng	IA	1956*	1949*	W13	W24	L2	D4	L3	W15	W12	4.5
7	Hodina, James	IA	1815*	1815*	W25	L12	W14	W13	W5	D2	L1	4.5
8	Lodh, Anish	IA	1503*	1485*	D17	W27	L12	W26	L11	W25	W14	4.5
9	White, James Lee	IA	1796*	1781*	W16	W22	L1	W25	W10	L3	L5	4.0
10	Trunnell, John M	IA	1532/14	1539/21	W21	L3	W15	W16	L9	W22	L4	4.0
11	Kozich, Andrew Jo	IA	1443*	1458*	W23	L1	L13	W19	W8	L4	W16	4.0
12	Fiedorowicz, Owen	IA	1412*	1550*	W29	W7	W8	W3	L2	L1	L6	4.0
13	Fiedorowicz, Jess	IA	1220*	1335*	L6	W28	W11	L7	W18	L5	W19	4.0
14	Lapinsky, Stephen	IA	1387*	1380*	L2	W17	L7	W23	D25	W20	L8	3.5
15	Pregon, Joseph Je	IA	1264*	1299*	L1	W23	L10	W24	D16	L6	W22	3.5
16	Lodh, Anjali	IA	1180*	1244*	L9	W30	W24	L10	D15	W18	L11	3.5
17	Kumar, Aadarsh Da	IA	981*	1080*	D8	L14	L26	W28	L20	W27	W25	3.5
18	Palaniappan, Arju	IA	1414*	1343*	W30	L4	L25	W21	L13	L16	W28	3.0
19	Mannengi, Siva	IA	1300*	1284*	L3	W21	L5	L11	W28	W23	L13	3.0
20	Cochran, Patrick	IA	1208/18	1204/25	L4	D26	L22	W27	W17	L14	D21	3.0
21	Stumpf, Eric Karl	IA	1106*	1091*	L10	L19	W30	L18	W29	D26	D20	3.0
22	Reddy, Aman	IA	1020*	1155*	W27	L9	W20	L5	W26	L10	L15	3.0
23	Phipps, Daniel	WI	964/13	991/20	L11	L15	W29	L14	W24	L19	W30	3.0
24	Capron, Mark	IA	1431*	1334*	W28	L6	L16	L15	L23	W29	D26	2.5
25	Vigil, Barry	IA	1203*	1205*	L7	W29	W18	L9	D14	L8	L17	2.5
26	Thangavel, Sanmat	IA	1124*	1132*	L5	D20	W17	L8	L22	D21	D24	2.5
27	Vigil, Eric Golf	IA	1511*	1369*	L22	L8	L28	L20	W30	L17	W29	2.0
28	Grimes, Mary Kath	KY	322/20	411*	L24	L13	W27	L17	L19	W30	L18	2.0
29	Munnich, Eric	IA	1300/00	607/07	L12	L25	L23	W30	L21	L24	L27	1.0
30	Hou, Bosen	IA	621/00	101/07	L18	L16	L21	L29	L27	L28	L23	0.0

2017 Barber Tournament of K-8 Champions
by Anish Lodh

I went to Norfolk, Virginia around July 29th for two chess tournaments. I stayed there for 10 days with my family. A few months ago, I played against Nathan Chen in the battle to become the Iowa Barber representative. We both barely made it to the playoff, as Nathan almost suffered a draw against Eddy Xu and I was losing to Drake Starr. Nathan and I drew the first playoff out of the opening and went on to play three blitz games. I won the first game, Nathan won the second, and I won the Armageddon game as black with draw odds and a time disadvantage. This qualified me for the national Barber Tournament of K-8 chess champions.

On the first day of the Barber championship, I walked into the vast playing hall and was surprised that each player got a flag of their state. I noticed that the custom brown boards for this tournament were a bit distracting. I liked being able to see the Denker and National Girls Tournament of Champions taking place simultaneously. Arshaq Saleem was the Denker representative & Sanmati Thangavel was the Girls representative.

After most of the rounds, I liked getting my games reviewed by Alex Lenderman. I also got some useful advice after meeting William Lombardy, Bobby Fischer's coach.

My best game was round five, where I defeated a 2000 rated after slowly beating him with my extra pawn. (See annotated game) I started the tournament slightly below half in ranking, but I finished slightly above half and scored three points out of six.

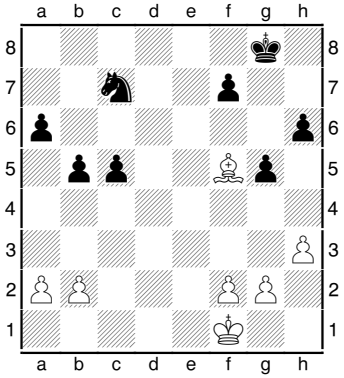
I also enjoyed visiting the Battleship Wisconsin, the Virginia beach, and a Bangladeshi restaurant called Cilantro. The trivia contest was a great addition to the tournament, where I won a Brazilian chess set.

All in all, the tournament was great, and I would love to come back for Barber next year!

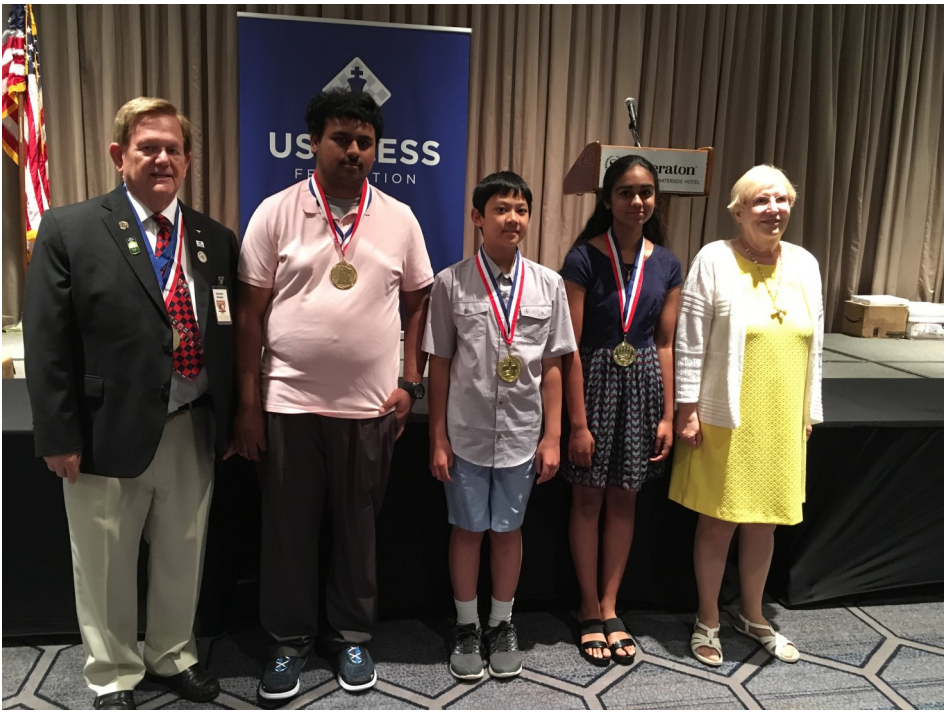
Jonah Romero (2071) - Anish Lodh (1722)
[D48] 5, 31.07.2017

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘c3 ♘f6 4.e3 e6 5.♘f3 ♘bd7 6.♗d3 d×c4 7.♗×c4 b5 8.♗d3 ♗b7 9.0-0 a6 10.e4 c5 11.d5 My opening knowledge ended here. **11...e×d5 12.e×d5** I saw that if I played 12...♗d6, my opponent would respond with 13. ♖e1+, which would force me to play 13...♔f8. If I instead played 13...♗e7, white would respond with 14.d6, winning my bishop. **12...♗e7 13.♗c2** My opponent did not need to protect his d5 pawn. For example: 13.♖e1 ♘×d5 14.♘×d5 ♗×d5 15.♗×b5 ♗×f3. **13...♘b6** My opponent cannot defend his pawn. **14.♖e1 ♘b×d5** I should've played 0-0 instead because there is no rush to capture d5. **15.♘×d5 ♗×d5 16.♘h4 0-0 17.♗g5 ♗e6 18.♕f3 ♕d5** I expected 19.♕×d5 ♘×d5 20.♗×e7 ♘×e7 to follow in the game. **19.♘f5 ♗×f5** I also had the option to maintain my bishop pair with

19...♗d8. **20.♕×f5 ♕×f5 21.♗×f5 ♖fe8 22.♖ad1 h6 23.♗h4 ♖ad8 24.h3 g5 25.♖×d8 ♗×d8 26.♖×e8+ ♘×e8 27.♗g3 ♗c7** I decided to get rid of my opponent's bishop pair. **28.♗×c7 ♘×c7 29.♔f1**



I did not exactly know what to do in this position, so I decided to activate my king. **♔g7 30.♔e2 ♔f6 31.♗c8 ♔e5 32.♔d3 ♘d5** I played this move with the future threat of ♘f4 or ♘b4. **33.g3 a5** I decided that I needed to create a passed pawn on the queenside. **34.a3 b4 35.a×b4 c×b4 36.♗b7 ♘b6** I did not want to allow ♔c4. **37.♗c6 f6** This move puts all my pawns on the opposite color of White's bishop. **38.♗e8 ♔d5 39.f4 g×f4 40.g×f4 ♔c5 41.♗f7 ♘d5 42.♔e4 ♘e7** I stopped the white king from reaching f5. **43.♗e6 a4 44.♔f3 a3 45.b×a3 b×a3 46.♔g4 ♘d5** I took advantage of the fact that my knight could block my opponent's bishop's diagonal. **47.♗f5 ♘e3+ 0-1**



2017 Denker Tournament of High School Champions

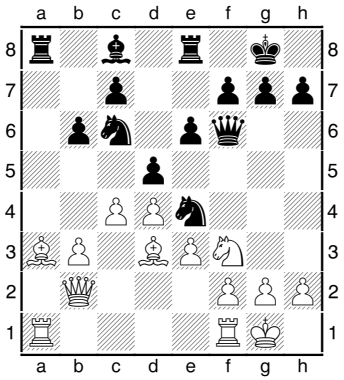
By Arshaq Saleem

Saleem,Arshaq (2213) − Ghatti,Sanjay (2353) [E33] Denker (2), 30.07.2017

[We flew into Norfolk, Virginia late in the night on Friday, July 28 for the annual Denker Tournament of Champions. Played in the Sheraton Waterfront, the tournament was six rounds, lasting until August 1. I was joined by fellow Iowa representatives Anish Lodh (the Barber representative) and Sanmati Thangavel (the NGTOC representative). The traditional opening ceremony was held at 3 p.m. on Saturday (which gave us enough time before our round, which was at 7). While honoring the representatives from the various states, the ceremony is always entertaining due to Dewain Barber's humorous personality. Mr. Barber challenged each representative to "Pay it forward" by teaching 100 people how to play chess. With regard to his challenge, well, I'm working on it... My section was highly competitive, featuring multiple IMs and over 25 masters. My only goal for the tournament was to play good chess and not worry too much about the result. The pairings for the first round came, and I had barely made the top group; I was the 23rd seed out of 48 players. As a result, I played a 1200 from West Virginia. The game was a pretty smooth victory. One down, five to go. As I was at the bottom of the top group in the first round, I was bound to play up the next game. Sure enough, I was playing a 2300 with the white pieces.]

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 ♘c6 [This is known as the Two Knights' Tango. Black keeps his options open for the time being; Black often ends up transposing to a variation of the Nimzo−Indian, as seen in the game.] **3.♘f3 e6 4.♘c3 ♗b4 5.♕c2 0-0 6.♗d2 ♗×c3?!** [In this line, Black usually only takes on c3 after White has played a3. In this case, White does not have to play a3, so he has saved a tempo over the main line. 6...d6 with the idea of e5 is the main line.] **7.♗×c3 d5** [I suppose this is a consistent follow−up to his early capture on c3, but it is not how Black generally plays in this line. As mentioned in the note to Black's 6th move, 7...d6 is the generally prescribed way of playing these positions. But as White does not have to play a3, he is still doing well here.] **8.b3?** [While there are exceptions to every rule, it was much better in this case to just complete development. I played this move to be able to retreat my bishop to b2 in the event of Black playing ♘e4, but getting castled quickly is more important. 8.e3 is the most natural move in the position, simply planning to finish development. 8...♘e4 9.♗d3 f5 *(9...♘×c3* is not very desirable for Black, as Black is left with a bad Queen's Gambit (due to the misplaced knight on c6). *10.♕×c3±)* 10.0-0 White is just better. He will play ♘d2 and f3 to kick away the knight on e4, and Black will have an inferior Stonewall structure (due to the lack of the dark bishop).] **8...a5!?** [an interesting way to stir up some trouble before I get castled.] **9.e3 ♘e4 10.♗b2** [Again 10.♗d3 with the idea of castling, might be better, even though it is inconsistent with my previous play.] **10...a4 11.♗a3** [I wanted to prevent ♘b4, which might be awkward to meet. 11.♗e2 ♘b4 12.♕c1 a×b3 13.a×b3 ♘a2 14.♕c2 ♘b4 15.♕d1 *(15.♕c1 ♘a2=)* 15...♖×a1 16.♗×a1 b6 seems alright for Black.] **11...a×b3 12.♕b2?** [I thought this was clever, but it is very risky with my king in the center. 12.a×b3 is more prudent, despite allowing ♘b4. 12...♘b4 13.♕c1 c5 gives Black some active play, but after *(13...♕e7* with the idea of ♘c2+ was the reason I rejected the line in the first place. Here, though, White has the simple *14.c5! ♘c6 15.b4*± and Black is getting steamrolled on the queenside.*)* 14.♗e2± followed by 0-0, White's bishop−pair will eventually show.] **12...♖e8?!** [Giving me some res−

pite. 12...b×a2!? is an interesting exchange sacrifice. 13.♗×f8 ♕×f8 14.c5 e5∞ gives Black decent compensation for the material. *(or 14...b6)* ; Black could have capitalized upon my previous missteps with the powerful, albeit difficult to find, 12...e5! Simply ripping open the center. It is difficult to calculate the ensuing variations over-the-board, however one thing is for sure: White's bishop-pair is not the important factor in the position anymore, and the draft around the White king is becoming quite uncomfortable. One possible line may go: 13.♗×f8 ♕×f8 14.c5 e×d4 15.e×d4 ♗g4 with crazy complications.] **13.a×b3 ♕f6 14.♗d3 b6 15.0-0±**



[Now the position has stabilized, and White should have some edge with the bishop-pair and space advantage.] **15...♗b7 16.♕c2?** [This move essentially wastes a tempo. I'm not even threatening to take twice on e4, as Black would have ♘a5 at the end. I should have focused on trying to remove the strong knight from e4. 16.♘d2 This seems like a safe option for White. 16...♘e7 Now White may even try 17.♗×e4!? d×e4 18.♗×e7 ♕×e7 19.b4± planning an eventual b5, ♘b3, and c5.] **16...♖a7!** [Preparing to double on the a-file to take advantage of the awkward position of the bishop.] **17.♗×e4** [17.♘e5!? aiming to remove the knight on c6 so White doesn't have to worry about ♘b4 jumps. 17...♖ea8 (17...♘×e5?! 18.d×e5 ♕d8 *(18...♕×e5? 19.♗b2+-)* 19.f3±) 18.♘×c6 ♖×a3 19.♖×a3 ♖×a3 20.f3± Black's possession of the a-file is not very important in this particular position. White can play ♕b2, ♖a1 if necessary.] **17...d×e4 18.♘d2** [18.♕×e4 ♖ea8 19.♗b2 ♘a5 20.♕g4 ♘×b3=] **18...♖ea8 19.♕b2** [Up until this point, I still thought I should be better, but I was now realizing that my bishop on a3 was stuck.] **19...♕g6 20.♖fe1** [This clears the f1-square for the White knight to help defend the kingside. The rook could have gone to a better square though. 20.b4 allows 20...♘e7 followed by ♘f5 h4.; 20.♖fd1 may have been an improvement over the game, as I may have some options involving d5 later on.] **20...h5!** [Even Black's pawns are joining the attack.] **21.♘f1 ♖a5!** [An excellent rook lift. On g5, the rook will put strong pressure on my king. However, it is not clear how Black would break through.] **22.c5??** [After this, I'm positionally busted. 22.b4! ♖g5 23.g3 h4 directly going for the attack. *(23...b5!* would objectively be the best move, but White's position is somewhat tenable after *24.♕e2)* 24.b5 ♘a5 25.♕e2± White can play ♗b4, and White's king is relatively safe.] **22...b5 23.b4** [The bishop on a3 is a sorry piece. Black can take his time now to finish the game off.] **23...♖a4 24.♘d2 ♘e7 25.h3 ♘f5 26.♔h2 ♘h4 27.♖g1 ♕f5 28.♘b1 ♗c6 29.♖f1 ♗d7 30.♘c3 ♖4a6 31.♖fd1 e5 32.d×e5 ♖g6** [This was a tough loss for me, but there is no time for sulking over a result when you have another game. I was paired against a 1600 from Kentucky in the next round. I achieved a large advantage out of the opening with Black, and went on to win quite quickly. My fourth round game was my second big test of the tournament. I was playing against the 2nd seed Craig Hilby from California, who was rated over 2500. Having the White pieces, I wanted to put some pressure on him, but my opening backfired badly. I played several aggressive pawn moves early on that I later regretted in the endgame. I was unable to hold the ending with all of my pawn weaknesses, and I soon lost. After four rounds, I was sitting on 50%, which

was neither amazing nor disastrous. For the fifth round, I was paired against a 1700 from Nevada.]
0-1

Saran,Ishan (1782) − Saleem,Arshaq (2213) [B99] Denker (5), 04.08.2017

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 c×d4 4.♘×d4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 a6 [This move characterizes the Najdorf variation of the Sicilian defense.] **6.♗g5** [Considered to be the "Old Main Line". 6.♗e3 along with; 6.h3 have taken over 6.♗g5 in popularity as of late.] **6...e6 7.f4 ♗e7 8.♕f3 ♕c7 9.g4** [9.0-0-0 ♘bd7 10.♗d3 is the other main way of handling the position.] **9...♘bd7 10.0-0-0 b5 11.♗×f6 ♘×f6 12.g5 ♘d7** [So far we have been following well−known theory. Here, my opponent played a lesser known, yet playable move.] **13.a3** [This move clearly stops b4, but only for the time being. 13.f5 is the main move] **13...♖b8!** [Black insists on going through with b4.] **14.h4 b4 15.a×b4 ♖×b4 16.f5** [White advances with his attack, but gives up control over the crucial e5-square. This is often a very important square for Black to have control over in these variations of the Najdorf. 16.♗h3 is probably a better move, but Black still has good play after 16...♕c5 17.♘b3 ♕b6 intending a5-a4.] **16...♘e5 17.♕e3 ♕b6** [The engine seems to like 17...0-0 but I did not consider this move during the game. In retrospect, even though White's attack seems scary, due to the absence of his dark bishop, it will be difficult for him to generate a strong attack. Black, on the other hand, has the a and b−files to work with.] **18.♖h3** [18.b3 was probably best 18...♘c6 19.♗c4 ♕c5 with a complex position.] **18...♗d7?!** [Perhaps a bit of a lazy move. 18...♖×b2! 19.♘b3 ♖×b3 20.c×b3 ♕×b3 I knew during the game that Black was doing well here, but I was unsure of the extent of my advantage. It turns out that White cannot untangle conveniently, and Black can simply finish development and attack the exposed king.] **19.f×e6 f×e6 20.♘b3 ♕×e3+ 21.♖×e3 h6!** [Creating a weakness on the kingside.] **22.♖g3 h×g5 23.h×g5 ♖b6 24.♗e2 ♖h2 25.♘d4 ♔f7 26.g6+ ♔e8** [By provoking g6, I now have the f6-square available for the bishop.] **27.♘f3 ♘×f3 28.♗×f3 ♗f6 29.♖h1 ♖×h1+ 30.♗×h1 ♔e7 31.♘d1 ♗e5 32.♖f3 ♗e8** [Black should be technically winning after he picks off the g6-pawn. Still, the conversion requires some precision, and my time was starting to get low around here.] **33.c3 ♗×g6 34.♖f1 ♗f6 35.♖g1 ♗h7 36.♘e3 ♖b5 37.♘c4 ♖c5 38.♘d2 a5 39.♗f3 a4 40.♖h1 ♗g6 41.♖g1 ♔f7 42.♘b1 ♖e5 43.♗d1 ♗×e4 44.♗×a4 ♗b7** [44...♗g5+ 45.♘d2 ♗f4!-+ followed by g5 was the best way to wrap things up.] **45.♘d2 ♗g5 46.♔c2 ♗e3 47.♖g4 ♗×d2?** [Objectively, this is quite a bad decision, as I'm voluntarily giving up the bishop−pair for no clear gain. In mutual time pressure, though I just wanted to get rid of his knight to avoid any trickery. 47...d5 48.b4 ♖h5 followed by the advancement of the pawns was more accurate.] **48.♔×d2 g5 49.♗c2 ♗f3 50.♖g3 g4 51.c4 ♖h5 52.b4 ♔f6** [Now, with the march of the king up the board, the game is definitely over.] **53.♔e3 ♔e5 54.♗d3 ♖h1 55.b5 ♖h2 56.♖g1 d5 57.c×d5 e×d5 58.♗g6 ♖b2 59.♖e1 ♖×b5 60.♔f2+ ♔f4 61.♗d3 ♖b2+ 62.♔g1 ♔g3 63.♖f1 ♖g2+** [It was satisfying to finally play a decent game. For the final round, I once again got paired up against a 2300 from Maryland. The game was pretty equal throughout, and we agreed to a draw. I finished the tournament with 3.5/6, which was better than I did the year before. Overall, it was an honor to be able to represent Iowa once again, and I would like to thank the Iowa Chess Association for giving me this opportunity, as well as Mr. Barber and USCF for helping coordinate and run the event.]
0-1

Forking a billion pawns. — Joseph Wan

63rd Iowa Open Chess Weekend

By Mark Capron

On August 18-20, over 200 Chess players descended on the Marriott Conference Center in Coralville, Iowa for the 63rd Iowa Open Chess tournament. The event featured Friday evening Quick Chess, an U1200 section and an U1600 section on Saturday, and the Iowa Open Saturday and Sunday. The Open section was the strongest yet with 4 GMs, 2 IMs and 23 players rated over 2000. One thing that stands out about the Iowa Open is the draw from other states (Open section 63% out of state, Reserve 33%, 16% RBO). The weekend featured players from 10 states, from as far away as New Jersey, ensuring you won't play the same players like most local tournaments. Last year we reached both coasts with players from New Hampshire, Virginia and Washington! In the end it was the Blindfold King, GM Timur Gareyev, from Kansas who prevailed in the Open section. GM Gareyev went 5-0 defeating IM Sean Nagle (last year's co-winner) in the last round to secure the victory. GM Alex Yermolinsky took home the second place prize after he defeated IM Michael Brooks in the last round (a small payback for last year when Brooks knocked Yermo out of the prize money). Third went to GM Priyadharshan Kannappan and NM Joseph Wan. The U2200 prize was a tie between NM Valeriy Kosokin and expert Nathan Holzmueller. The U2000 prize was shared with a slew of players including: Hersh Singh, Nathan Chen, William Murray, Ying Tan, Gregory Revesz, and Robert Reynolds. The U1800 first place went to Benjamin Darr. The U1800 second went to Michael Volz, Gauri Menon, Morgan Lu, Anish Lodh, David Sayler, and Robert Reinke. The U1600 first place went to Cael Province, and U1600 second place was shared betweenWilliam Whited and Daniel DeYoung.

The 40 player Reserve State Championship was shared between Luke Schaeckenbach and Bethany Carson who both went undefeated. There was a large tie for third place between: Golden Peng, Sarah Carson, Craig Gustafson, and Matthew Kriegel. The U1250 prize was also a tie, this time between Anjali Lodh and Jess Fiedorowicz.

The RBO section winners:

1st	Matthew Fichter
2nd	Dmitriy Acherkan
3rd	Ana Denison
4th	Zachary Peace
5th	Eli Copeland
U1000	Carter Cline (1st), Minou Emmad
U800	Niko Nixon (1st), Thomas Pierce
U600	Tom Fichter (1st), Ben Pierce
U400	Aryan Harwani (1st), Bosen Hou
UNR	Taylor Fernolz (1st), Tate Kochan

The Quick Chess Championship held on Friday evening was the largest yet boasting 48 players. It was also probably the strongest yet as well. One father was hosting a birthday party for his son and brought the whole party to play the tournament!

1st	GM Priyadharshan Kannappan
2nd	GM Timur Gareyev, NM Bob Holliman
U2000	NM Arshaq Saleem
U1600	Luke Schaeckenbach
U1200	Aman Reddy, Ana Denison, & Marcus Brintle

A new feature of the weekend was the mixed doubles. This is where a male and female player add their scores together and compete against other pairs. This side event drew 12 teams. The prize winners were:

1st	GM Timur Gareyev, Ana Denison
2nd	GM Pri Kannappan, Celina Zhou
3rd	NM Arshaq Saleem, Christine Denison

Lastly in the Open we reward the largest upset winner each round with their choice of a book. This is something we affectionately call the Pain Index. Here is how it shook out:

Round 1: Michael Takahishi 348
Round 2: Venkat Pathuru 546
Round 3: Clive Power 248
Round 4: Sameeth Sheshappa 381
Round 5: Gregory Revesz 298

Congrats to Venkat Pathuru for having such a large upset of 546 points! By the way Venkat increased his rating by 67.

A nice feature in 2017 was that the legendary GM William Lombardy was on hand Saturday to analyze games. Many players took advantage of this.

2017 Iowa Quick Chess Championship

August 18 Coralville, IA

TD: Mark Capron, Bill Broich, Stephen Plotnick, & Eric Vigil

#	Player	St	Pre-Q	Post-Q	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
1	Kannappan, Priyad	MO	2485*	2491*	W23	W10	W5	D15	W2	W7	5.5
2	Gareyev, Timur	KS	2579*	2572*	W35	W30	W9	W4	L1	W8	5.0
3	Holliman, Bob	MO	2001*	1998*	W26	L17	W23	W21	W11	W9	5.0
4	Brashaw, Daniel	IA	2125*	2128*	W25	W12	W21	L2	D7	W13	4.5
5	Saleem, Arshaq	IA	1930*	1938*	W28	W18	L1	W17	D6	W19	4.5
6	Schaeckenbach, Lu	IA	1567*	1659*	W46	L8	W40	W34	D5	W17	4.5
7	Kosokin, Valeriy	IA	2208*	2197*	W24	W11	D17	W8	D4	L1	4.0
8	Wan, Joseph Cheng	IA	1949*	1952*	W27	W6	W22	L7	W20	L2	4.0
9	Thangavel, Gokul	IA	1914*	1914*	W38	W13	L2	W18	W14	L3	4.0
10	Chen, Nathan	IA	1764*	1754*	W32	L1	W27	L13	W25	W20	4.0
11	Hesse, Thomas	IA	1695*	1704*	W40	L7	W28	W25	L3	W21	4.0
12	Schaeckenbach, Ja	IA	1647*	1636*	W29	L4	W37	L14	W36	W26	4.0
13	Lodh, Anish	IA	1485*	1557*	W47	L9	W43	W10	W16	L4	4.0
14	Jin, Ashton	MN	1481*	1603*	W44	W19	L15	W12	L9	W30	4.0
15	Neal, James Alex,	IA	2041*	2055*	W36	W20	W14	D1	U0	U0	3.5
16	Wolz, Dave	IA	1712*	1694*	H0	U0	W45	W22	L13	W31	3.5
17	Gingerich, Randal	IA	1731*	1761*	W45	W3	D7	L5	W34	L6	3.5
18	Fiedorowicz, Owen	IA	1550*	1549*	W42	L5	W31	L9	W37	H0	3.5
19	Murray, William J	MN	1837*	1788*	W31	L14	W36	L20	W24	L5	3.0
20	Darr, Benjamin J	IA	1618*	1627*	W41	L15	W38	W19	L8	L10	3.0
21	Heinrich, Joel G	WI	1549*	1567*	W43	W34	L4	L3	W27	L11	3.0
22	Deyoung, Daniel A	IA	1356/24	1333*	W48	W33	L8	L16	L26	W37	3.0
23	Pregon, Joseph Je	IA	1323*	1314*	L1	W32	L3	D31	D38	W39	3.0
24	Mannengi, Siva	IA	1284*	1264*	L7	L40	W46	W39	L19	W38	3.0
25	Lodh, Anjali	IA	1310*	1341*	L4	W29	W30	L11	L10	W40	3.0
26	Cochran, Patrick	IA	1204/25	1230*	L3	D45	W33	D30	W22	L12	3.0
27	Denison, Ana L	IA	1183*	1180*	L8	W46	L10	W41	L21	W42	3.0
28	Reddy, Aman	IA	1155*	1192*	L5	W42	L11	W32	L30	W36	3.0
29	Brintle, Marcus P	IA	688*	778*	L12	L25	L44	W33	W43	W34	3.0
30	White, James Lee	IA	1712*	1653*	W39	L2	L25	D26	W28	L14	2.5
31	Xu, Eddy	IA	1117*	1167*	L19	W44	L18	D23	W35	L16	2.5
32	Fiedorowicz, Isab	IA	935*	930*	L10	L23	W47	L28	W41	H0	2.5
33	Tripp, Andrew Jam	IN	518/00	784/05	H0	L22	L26	L29	W46	W45	2.5
34	Cusumano, Steven	NE	1891*	1806*	W37	L21	W35	L6	L17	L29	2.0
35	Fiedorowicz, Jess	IA	1335*	1298*	L2	W39	L34	D38	L31	H0	2.0
36	Vigil, Barry	IA	1352*	1317*	L15	W41	L19	W40	L12	L28	2.0
37	Arthur, Chris	IA	1125/13	1114/19	L34	W47	L12	W44	L18	L22	2.0
38	Vigil, Jacob T	IA	1189*	1182*	L9	W48	L20	D35	D23	L24	2.0
39	Krueger, Aidan	IA	937/04	933/10	L30	L35	W42	L24	W45	L23	2.0
40	Bharadwaj, Krishn	IA	727*	836*	L11	W24	L6	L36	W44	L25	2.0
41	Munnich, Eric	IA	607/07	636/13	L20	L36	W48	L27	L32	W46	2.0
42	Kaczka, Benjamin	IA	326*	336*	L18	L28	L39	W48	B0	L27	2.0
43	Hou, Bosen	IA	101/07	151/12	L21	B0	L13	L45	L29	W48	2.0
44	Donald, Daniel R	IA	634/00	772/06	L14	L31	W29	L37	L40	W47	2.0
45	Nixon, Nolon	IA	643*	645*	L17	D26	L16	W43	L39	L33	1.5
46	Nixon, Niko	IA	570*	544*	L6	L27	L24	W47	L33	L41	1.0
47	Ajit, Aneessh	IA	521/00	324/06	L13	L37	L32	L46	W48	L44	1.0
48	Donald, David R	IA	634/00	101/06	L22	L38	L41	L42	L47	L43	0.0

63rd Iowa Open

August 19-20 Coralville, IA TD: Eric Vigil, Mark Capron, & Bill Broich

#	Player	St	Pre	Post	1	2	3	4	5	T
1	Gareyev, Timur	KS	2682*	2690*	W22	W21	W9	W4	W7	5.0
2	Yermolinsky, Alex	SD	2564*	2566*	W23	W32	D10	W11	W8	4.5
3	Kannappan, Priyad	MO	2599*	2590*	W49	D11	W18	D5	W10	4.0
4	Wan, Joseph Cheng	IA	2256*	2268*	W15	W6	W30	L1	W22	4.0
5	Kosokin, Valeriy	IA	2191*	2201*	D36	W34	W45	D3	W27	4.0
6	Holzmueller, Nath	IL	2055*	2080*	W39	L4	W44	W28	W21	4.0
7	Nagle, Sean M	MN	2560*	2554*	W24	W31	W17	D8	L1	3.5
8	Brooks, Michael A	MO	2391*	2393*	W13	W12	W50	D7	L2	3.5
9	Iwu, Okechukwu An	MN	2245*	2245*	W25	W27	L1	D16	W35	3.5
10	Neal, James Alex,	IA	2250*	2260*	W16	W33	D2	W46	L3	3.5
11	Saleem, Arshaq	IA	2209*	2221*	W26	D3	W29	L2	W37	3.5
12	Keating, Robert F	IA	2032*	2040*	W38	L8	W52	D37	W41	3.5
13	Reynolds, Robert	IA	1967*	1974*	L8	W53	W60	D30	W45	3.5
14	Murray, William J	MN	1929*	1929*	L69	D45	W58	W68	W47	3.5
15	Singh, Hersh	WI	1920*	1950*	L4	W44	W56	W50	D19	3.5
16	Tan, Ying	NE	1894*	1923*	L10	W55	W59	D9	W46	3.5
17	Revesz, Gregory	NE	1914*	1996*	W40	W20	L7	D23	W32	3.5
18	Chen, Nathan	IA	1823*	1913*	W71	D19	L3	W62	W33	3.5
19	Baginskaite, Cami	SD	2313*	2288*	L34	D18	W63	W43	D15	3.0
20	Mattson, Dane	WI	2220*	2201*	H0	L17	D25	W56	W48	3.0
21	Magness, Trevor S	IA	2202*	2195*	W35	L1	W40	W47	L6	3.0
22	Jin, Ashton	MN	2054*	2061*	L1	W51	W53	W38	L4	3.0
23	Thangavel, Gokul	IA	2084*	2078*	L2	W52	W54	D17	D30	3.0
24	Chen, Kevin Emman	NJ	1985*	1978*	L7	L30	W67	W59	W50	3.0
25	Hodina, James	IA	1928*	1939*	L9	D46	D20	W60	W51	3.0
26	Cusumano, Steven	NE	1918*	1907*	L11	L47	W64	W72	W53	3.0
27	Zhou, Iris Yixia	MO	1901*	1947*	W80	L9	W65	W31	L5	3.0
28	Gaustad, Kevin A	MN	1923*	1919*	L31	W66	W75	L6	W54	3.0
29	Gingerich, Randal	IA	1828*	1868*	W60	D80	L11	H0	W49	3.0
30	Darr, Benjamin J	IA	1778*	1846*	W64	W24	L4	D13	D23	3.0
31	Mathur, Rithwik	WI	2172*	2153*	W28	L7	W48	L27	D38	2.5
32	Zagar, Dane Bruno	MN	2128*	2114*	W63	L2	W51	D35	L17	2.5
33	Vasto, Daniel	IA	2018*	2006*	H0	L10	W70	W42	L18	2.5
34	Takahashi, Michae	IA	1967*	1959*	W19	L5	L55	W71	D44	2.5
35	Condron, James K	IL	1921*	1928*	L21	W56	W71	D32	L9	2.5
36	White, Gary Micha	MO	1873*	1879*	D5	D62	H0	L45	W64	2.5
37	Hartmann, John R	NE	1858*	1872*	D62	H0	W77	D12	L11	2.5
38	Ellis, James S	WI	1870*	1871*	L12	W77	W61	L22	D31	2.5
39	Rajamani, Sureshk	IL	1856*	1838*	L6	W65	H0	L48	W61	2.5
40	White, James Lee	IA	1839*	1822*	L17	W73	L21	D65	W66	2.5

41	Nimkar, Kaustubh	KS	1843*	1820*	D59	W58	L46	W66	L12	2.5
42	Reinke, Robert T	WI	1771*	1768*	L48	W67	D62	L33	W65	2.5
43	Sayler, David	MO	1752*	1727*	L65	W79	H0	L19	W68	2.5
44	Lodh, Anish	IA	1756*	1764*	W74	L15	L6	W75	D34	2.5
45	Volz, Michael	IA	1730*	1757*	W67	D14	L5	W36	L13	2.5
46	Menon, Gauri	WI	1740*	1761*	W76	D25	W41	L10	L16	2.5
47	Lu, Morgan	IA	1647*	1670*	W68	W26	H0	L21	L14	2.5
48	Province, Cael Do	KS	1667*	1733*	W42	D63	L31	W39	L20	2.5
49	Zulic, Jasmin	IA	1995*	1964*	L3	L50	W73	W57	L29	2.0
50	Peralta, Luis M	IL	1813*	1819*	W72	W49	L8	L15	L24	2.0
51	Thomson, Aaron	MN	1823*	1810*	W82	L22	L32	W74	L25	2.0
52	Heinrich, Joel G	WI	1777*	1750*	W73	L23	L12	L61	W71	2.0
53	Harrison, Eva C	IL	1740*	1733*	W61	L13	L22	W77	L26	2.0
54	Shukla, Abhyudaya	IA	1718*	1704*	H0	D59	L23	W79	L28	2.0
55	Power, Clive Scot	IA	1716*	1743*	W75	L16	W34	U0	U0	2.0
56	Sheshappa, Ankith	KS	1722*	1716*	W81	L35	L15	L20	W72	2.0
57	Rector, Richard	IA	1672*	1627*	L77	L61	W81	L49	W73	2.0
58	Bruemmer, Don J	IA	1649*	1630*	D79	L41	L14	D70	W74	2.0
59	Zheng, Merrick	MO	1609*	1627*	D41	D54	L16	L24	W75	2.0
60	Whited, William L	IL	1551*	1562*	L29	W76	L13	L25	W77	2.0
61	Deyoung, Daniel A	IA	1456*	1517*	L53	W57	L38	W52	L39	2.0
62	Li, Marissa	IL	2104*	2067*	D37	D36	D42	L18	U0	1.5
63	Gudino, Pedro	IL	1867*	1835*	L32	D48	L19	L64	W81	1.5
64	Sheshappa, Sameet	KS	1673*	1673*	L30	D70	L26	W63	L36	1.5
65	Fiedorowicz, Owen	IA	1475*	1508*	W43	L39	L27	D40	L42	1.5
66	Sureshkumar, Kama	IL	1431*	1453*	W70	L28	H0	L41	L40	1.5
67	Reedy, Edward	IL	1442*	1435*	L45	L42	L24	D81	W79	1.5
68	Pathuru, Venkat A	IA	977*	1044*	L47	W72	H0	L14	L43	1.5
69	Brashaw, Daniel	IA	2293*	2295*	W14	U0	U0	U0	U0	1.0
70	Mills, Michael	NE	1708*	1671*	L66	D64	L33	D58	U0	1.0
71	Joseph, Rita	KS	1512*	1512*	L18	W74	L35	L34	L52	1.0
72	Grube, Andy	WI	1525*	1483*	L50	L68	W76	L26	L56	1.0
73	Plotnick, Jacob	IL	1294*	1304*	L52	L40	L49	W78	L57	1.0
74	Vigil, Barry	IA	1499*	1475*	L44	L71	W82	L51	L58	1.0
75	Abousharkh, Josep	KS	1533*	1515*	L55	W82	L28	L44	L59	1.0
76	Kromphardt, Roger	IA	1400*	1400*	L46	L60	L72	B0	U0	1.0
77	Kaur, Aradh	WI	1457*	1458*	W57	L38	L37	L53	L60	1.0
78	Zhou, Celina	MO	1298*	1292*	U0	U0	U0	L73	W83	1.0
79	Zagade, Samraat J	IL	1203*	1209*	D58	L43	H0	L54	L67	1.0
80	Holliman, Bob	MO	2200*	2200*	L27	D29	U0	U0	U0	0.5
81	Kosterman, Dennis	WI	1400*	1400*	L56	U0	L57	D67	L63	0.5
82	Pregon, Joseph Je	IA	1521*	1471*	L51	L75	L74	U0	U0	0.0
83	Vigil, Jacob T	IA	1228*	1205*	U0	U0	U0	U0	L78	0.0

63rd Iowa Open Reserve

August 19 Coralville, IA

TDs: Bill Broich, Mark Capron, Steven Plotnick & Eric Vigil

#	Player	ST	Pre	Post	1	2	3	4	T
1	Schaeckenbach, Luke	IA	1597*	1618*	W22	W21	W24	W4	4.0
2	Carson, Bethany	IA	1584*	1614*	W29	W31	W7	W9	4.0
3	Carson, Sarah Faith	IA	1540*	1522*	D14	W16	D26	W15	3.0
4	Peng, Golden Chuy	MN	1398*	1415*	W30	W23	W25	L1	3.0
5	Kriegel, Matthew	IA	1267*	1272*	L15	W36	W31	W25	3.0
6	Fiedorowicz, Jess	IA	1240*	1255*	W34	L25	W32	W24	3.0
7	Lodh, Anjali	IA	1308*	1334*	W40	W32	L2	W21	3.0
8	Gustafson, Craig	MO	1296/04	1354/08	L21	W22	W18	W20	3.0
9	Kozich, Andrew John	IA	1561*	1541*	D13	W19	W28	L2	2.5
10	Khan, Riaz A	MN	1337*	1315*	L32	W34	D29	W26	2.5
11	Denison, Christin	IA	1314*	1302*	L26	W40	W23	H0	2.5
12	Madan Prasad, Mri	IA	1262*	1256*	W33	L24	W30	D14	2.5
13	Zhou, Celina	MO	1289*	1298*	D9	L14	W35	W29	2.5
14	Power, Josiah T	IA	1148*	1243*	D3	W13	D20	D12	2.5
15	Reddy, Aman	IA	988*	1159*	W5	D28	W17	L3	2.5
16	Lei, Daniel J	MN	1033*	1166*	W18	L3	D19	W28	2.5
17	Carson, Tim	IA	1445*	1383*	L31	W35	L15	W32	2.0
18	Chugh, Kunal	IA	1241*	1215*	L16	W37	L8	W31	2.0
19	Gray, Rex H	IA	1237*	1215*	D35	L9	D16	W34	2.0
20	Mannengi, Siva	IA	1216*	1207*	W37	D26	D14	L8	2.0
21	Xu, Eddy	IA	1206*	1272*	W8	L1	W27	L7	2.0
22	Kruse, Jodene	IA	1193*	1185*	L1	L8	W40	W36	2.0
23	Sheshappa, Ravind	KS	1162/13	1177/17	W27	L4	L11	W37	2.0
24	Moerlien, Puwit S	KS	1141*	1202*	W38	W12	L1	L6	2.0
25	Rodriguez, Layla	IL	1097*	1176*	W39	W6	L4	L5	2.0
26	Vigil, Jacob T	IA	1192*	1228*	W11	D20	D3	L10	2.0
27	Vance, Robert S	IA	1460*	1384*	L23	W33	L21	D30	1.5
28	Felgar, Stan	IA	1221*	1190*	W36	D15	L9	L16	1.5
29	Power, Matthew S	IA	1184*	1206*	L2	W39	D10	L13	1.5
30	Harrison, Christo	IL	1082*	1123*	L4	W38	L12	D27	1.5
31	Heller, Evan Jose	IA	1112*	1116*	W17	L2	L5	L18	1.0
32	O'hanlon, Ryland	KS	1095*	1100*	W10	L7	L6	L17	1.0
33	Kaur, Jind	WI	941*	909*	L12	L27	L36	W40	1.0
34	Mccullough, Sean	IA	883*	918*	L6	L10	W38	L19	1.0
35	Shaw, Terry	IA	772*	834*	D19	L17	L13	D38	1.0
36	Xu, Hans	MN	799*	821*	L28	L5	W33	L22	1.0
37	Yermolinsky, Greta	SD	656*	648*	L20	L18	B0	L23	1.0
38	Banh, Dong	IA	1412*	1289*	L24	L30	L34	D35	0.5
39	Jacobs, Steve	IA	1422*	1400*	L25	L29	U0	U0	0.0
40	Fiedorowicz, Isabela	IA	796*	766*	L7	L11	L22	L33	0.0

63rd Iowa Open Rated Beginner's Open

August 19 Coralville, IA

TDs: Bill Feldman, Mark Capron, & Eric Vigil

#	Player	St	Pre-R	Post-R	Pre-Q	Post-Q	1	2	3	4	5	T
1	Denison, Ana L	IA	1083*	1100*	1180*	1186*	W32	D15	W11	W17	W9	4.5
2	Fichter, Matthew	IA	1077/19	1099/24	960/12	1026/17	W10	W6	W36	W14	D4	4.5
3	Acherkan, Dmitriy	IA	971/13	1035/18	986/17	1058/22	W21	W18	W8	D9	W13	4.5
4	Copeland, Eli	IA	1037*	1037*	1027*	1024*	W20	D17	W41	W30	D2	4.0
5	Cline, Carter	KS	932*	933*	770*	826*	W22	W28	D30	D15	W23	4.0
6	Emmad, Minou	IA	827*	850*	846*	862*	W33	L2	W37	W36	W26	4.0
7	Nixon, Niko	IA	565*	747*	544*	725*	W16	L14	W48	W41	W15	4.0
8	Peace, Zachary	IA	322/09	642/14	641*	805*	W52	W20	L3	W18	W14	4.0
9	Havens, Robert Za	IA	866*	957*	875*	969*	W25	W13	W12	D3	L1	3.5
10	Pierce, Thomas	IA	652*	671*	677*	691*	L2	W45	W53	W38	D12	3.5
11	Fichter, Tom Joe	IA	311/05	481/10	311/05	479/10	D27	W51	L1	W47	W30	3.5
12	Fernholz, Taylor	IA	1128/00	811/05	1128/00	822/05	W55	W25	L9	W24	D10	3.5
13	Wiley, Jerry	IA	1083*	1033*	1083/10	1029/15	W19	L9	W34	W29	L3	3.0
14	Prakash, Nandini	IL	877*	868*	858*	857*	W23	W7	W26	L2	L8	3.0
15	Arbid, Hadi Talih	IA	916/13	913/18	936/13	924/18	W24	D1	W27	D5	L7	3.0
16	Acherkan, Lisa	IA	809*	751*	736*	688*	L7	L34	W44	W49	W33	3.0
17	Bharadwaj, Krishn	IA	797*	811*	836*	847*	W29	D4	W31	L1	D27	3.0
18	Shabazz-Jones, Na	IA	723*	711*	710*	714*	W49	L3	W39	L8	W34	3.0
19	Alvis, Jewels D	IA	692/14	652/19	706/14	666/19	L13	L36	W55	W50	W35	3.0
20	Tan, Sophie	NE	644*	631*	646*	647*	L4	L8	W43	W45	W36	3.0
21	Martin, James D	IA	612*	598*	622*	605*	L3	L30	W56	W53	W38	3.0
22	Ji, Austin Yongqi	IA	582*	586*	584*	587*	L5	W39	W50	L26	W40	3.0
23	Munnich, Eric	IA	636/00	605/05	636/13	631/18	L14	W48	W45	W40	L5	3.0
24	Nixon, Nolon	IA	648*	643*	645*	656*	L15	W46	W42	L12	W39	3.0
25	Pierce, Benjamin	IA	471*	504*	471*	500*	L9	L12	W52	W48	W41	3.0
26	Kochan, Tate	IA	723/00	714/05	723/00	716/05	W37	W33	L14	W22	L6	3.0
27	Sutton, Lewis Edw	IA	603/00	656/04	603/00	668/04	D11	X0	L15	W31	D17	3.0
28	Harwani, Ishan S	IA	688*	650*	685*	646*	W34	L5	L38	W37	D29	2.5
29	Tan, Isabella	NE	505*	533*	505*	566*	L17	W42	W46	L13	D28	2.5
30	Zachar, Anthony	IA	467/00	685/05	467/00	664/05	W38	W21	D5	L4	L11	2.5
31	Addis, Hazen Lloy	IA	500/00	406/05	500/00	402/05	D51	W47	L17	L27	W44	2.5
32	Matcha, Madan	IA	723*	630*	807*	710*	L1	W49	L40	L39	W47	2.0
33	Hua, Derek	IA	468/08	468/13	461/18	473/23	L6	L26	W54	W46	L16	2.0
34	Shadrak, Sujan Vi	IA	451/24	498*	457/24	491*	L28	W16	L13	W42	L18	2.0
35	Strecker, Ethan	IA	343*	344*	352*	371*	L46	F0	W49	W51	L19	2.0
36	Harwani, Aryan	IA	351*	415*	353*	419*	W56	W19	L2	L6	L20	2.0
37	Woo, Joonhyun	IA	332/04	369/09	335/04	384/09	L26	W43	L6	L28	W53	2.0
38	Kaczka, Benjamin	IA	317*	367*	336*	375*	L30	W56	W28	L10	L21	2.0
39	Pierce, Alexander	IA	291*	355*	353*	400*	W53	L22	L18	W32	L24	2.0
40	Peng, Arden	MN	237*	290*	167*	251*	L42	W54	W32	L23	L22	2.0

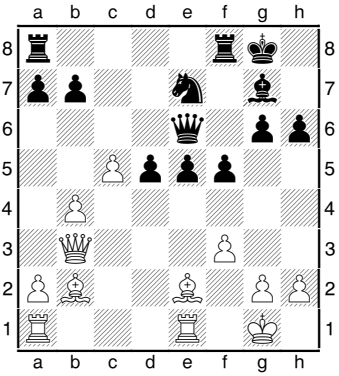
41	Hou, Bosen	IA	151/00	440/05	151/12	238/17	W54	W44	L4	L7	L25	2.0
42	Pierce, Heidi Mar	IA	1300/00	378/05	1300/00	378/05	W40	L29	L24	L34	W54	2.0
43	Ajit, Aneessh	IA	324/00	211/05	324/06	286/11	L45	L37	L20	W56	W50	2.0
44	Singh, Jiyan	WI	321/07	270/12	321/07	258/12	D47	L41	L16	W55	L31	1.5
45	Sudhakar, Nishvit	IA	119*	145*	168*	192*	W43	L10	L23	L20	D51	1.5
46	Tripp, Andrew Jam	IN	784/00	319/05	784/05	575/10	W35	L24	L29	L33	D48	1.5
47	Badri, Deepak	IL	551/00	226/05	551/00	220/05	D44	L31	W51	L11	L32	1.5
48	Burger, Matthew D	IA	558/00	307/05	558/00	377/05	W50	L23	L7	L25	D46	1.5
49	Banh, Logan T	IA	391/06	332/11	391/06	338/11	L18	L32	L35	L16	W56	1.0
50	Verry, Madison M	IA	168/15	133/20	297*	240*	L48	W52	L22	L19	L43	1.0
51	Gowda, Siddanth Y	IA	103/00	105/05	103/06	108/11	D31	L11	L47	L35	D45	1.0
52	Zachar, Timmy	IA	404/00	105/05	404/00	105/05	L8	L50	L25	L54	W55	1.0
53	Brownell, Tanner	IA	583/00	168/05	583/00	182/05	L39	W55	L10	L21	L37	1.0
54	Banh, Jennifer	IA	1300/00	105/05	1300/00	105/05	L41	L40	L33	W52	L42	1.0
55	Rajan, Vivek O	IA	420/00	101/05	420/00	101/05	L12	L53	L19	L44	L52	0.0
56	Moerlien, Charles	KS	1300/00	101/05	1300/00	101/05	L36	L38	L21	L43	L49	0.0

Round 1:

Takahashi,Michael (1967) − Baginskaite, Camilla (2313) [B26]
(1), 19.08.2017
1.e4 c5 2.♘c3 ♘c6 3.g3 g6 4.♗g2 ♗g7 5.d3 d6 6.♗e3 e5 7.♕d2 ♘ge7 8.♘ge2 ♘d4 9.0−0 ♗g4 10.f4 ♕d7 11.♖f2 h5 12.♖af1 f6 13.a3 h4 14.b4 b6 15.f×e5 d×e5 16.b×c5 b×c5 17.♘c1 h3 18.♗h1 ♗e6 19.♘3e2 0−0 20.c3 ♘×e2+ 21.♘×e2 ♖ac8 22.d4 c×d4 23.c×d4 e×d4 24.♘×d4 ♗c4 25.♖d1 ♗f7 26.♘f5 ♘×f5 27.♕×d7 ♘×e3 28.♖e1 ♘c4 29.♕×h3 ♘×a3 30.e5 f×e5 1-0

Annotations by Bob Keating

Ellis,James S (1870) − Keating,Robert F (2032) [E97] (1), 19.08.2017
Technically, this was the first master vs. master game of the tournament, although neither of us has played at master strength for a while. Nonetheless, the game had plenty of drama with wild swings of evaluation and unfortunate time−pressure related mistakes. I was fortunate to have made the next to last mistake! **1.d4 g6 2.c4 ♗g7 3.e4 d6 4.♘c3 ♘f6 5.♘f3 0−0 6.♗e2 e5 7.0−0 ♘c6 8.d5 ♘e7 9.b4 ♘h5 10.♖e1 f5 11.♘g5 ♘f6 12.f3 c6** [All book (King's Indian Defense, Bayonet Attack) so far. 12...♔h8 and 12...♘h5 are common alternatives.] **13.♕b3** [This is a deviation from the most common lines, 13.♗e3 or 13.♔h1. It is a bit scary but well known idea to apply tactical pressure to the a2-g8 diagonal.] **13...h6** [I considered holding off on this move for a little longer with 13...♔h8, but the tactical possibilities involving ♘f7+ were too ominous. 13...♔h8 Komodo says this move is fine, although I was incapable of the computer−like calculation to play it, and the terminal position with a White knight lodged on d6 is unpleasant to contemplate. 14.c5 d×c5 15.d6 ♕×d6 16.♖d1 ♕c7 17.b×c5 h6 18.♘f7+ ♔h7 19.♘d6 f×e4 20.f×e4] **14.♘e6 ♗×e6 15.d×e6 ♕c8** [I kept thinking to myself that this was too simple a way to round up the e6 pawn, but I could not come up with a refutation or a better alternative. Komodo agrees.] **16.c5?!** [This is a bit inaccurate as White has real chances to keep the pawn. 16.♖d1 ♖d8 17.♗e3 ♕×e6= Now, White's pieces are better coordinated than Black's. White should be able to regain the pawn or gain ample positional compensation by a timely b5 and applying more pressure on the d−file.] **16...d5 17.e×d5 ♘f×d5** [17...c×d5 18.♗b2 ♕×e6∓ Black is better with the game continuation (same position after his 19th move but with a pair of knights removed), although White can improve on his move 18.] **18.♘×d5?!** [Exchange of pieces should help Black gain mobility. 18.♗b2=] **18...c×d5 19.♗b2 ♕×e6∓**



[Black has the extra pawn, although my experience has been that it must be conceded in favor of some other advantage at some point due to White's superior activity and piece coordination.] **20.♖ad1** [20.♗d3! would freeze the ♗e5 due to the unprotected ♕e6.] **20...♔h7?!** [20...e4! would have helped to solidify Black's material edge. I was worried about giving up control of the center and did not appreciate the tactics against my unprotected queen until a couple moves later.] **21.♔h1?!** [Apparently White either did not see or did not value the ♗d3 move yet. 21.♗d3!] **21...♖ad8?** [21...e4!] **22.♗d3!=** [In addition to not being able to play e4, I realized that White has the threat of ♗×e5 followed

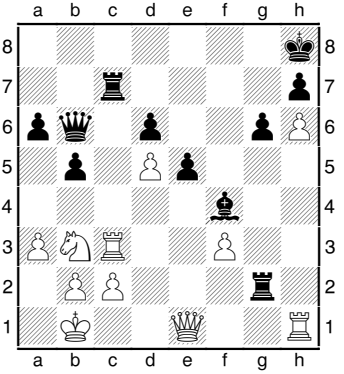
by f4, when ♘c6 does not defend the ♗e5 due to b5 by White. The ♘e7 must also remain to maintain the ♗d5.] **22...f4!** [For better or worse, and with time ticking down, I felt this move gave me the best chances. It prevents White from playing f4, opens a route for my knight to a potential outpost on e3, and introduces more potential for a kingside attack and wild complications. 22...a6 23.♗×e5 ♗×e5 24.f4 ♘c6 25.b5 a×b5 26.♗×b5 ♕f6 27.f×e5 ♘×e5 28.♖×d5=] **23.b5** [23.♗d4! Komodo suggests relocating the ♗b2 to the more relevant g1-a7 diagonal. This seems like a move hard to find without a long time to think. 23...♘f5 24.♗f2=]**23...♘f5 24.♖e4?** [A flashy move with the concrete idea of using the pin on d5 to lift the rook to the a−file where Black's weakest pawn resides. I sensed that there should be a tactical refutation, but without adequate time to think I did not find it.] **24...♕e7** [This is weaker than ♘e3 but seemed acceptable to my puny calculating abilities since I would with the c5 pawn. 24...♘e3! A line that involves a queen sacrifice if White does not immediately give up an Exchange. 25.♖g1 *(25.♖c1 d×e4! 26.♕×e6 e×d3 27.♗c3 d2 28.♗×d2 ♖×d2∓)* 25...d×e4! I do not believe there is any way I would find this move unless presented the position with unlimited time and "Black to win" printed at the bottom of the diagram. 26.♕×e6 e×d3 27.♗c3 d2 28.♗×d2 ♖×d2∓] **25.♖a4** [Now I realized that my planned ♕×c5 allows by ♖f8 to be skewered by ♗a3. One of my queenside pawns (a or d) seemed doomed and I sensed that White would have a strong initiative with the possibilities of a rook on the 7th rank and an advanced passed pawn.] **25...♕×c5!** [I don't necessarily seek out complications and drama, but if the game calls for it I'm not one to back down.] **26.♗a3 ♕f2 27.♗×f8 ♘e3 28.♖g1-+** [With the correct recapture on f8, Black wins. I briefly examined 28...e4, but when I could not make it work I became more focused on the ♖g1 and a possible mate threat based on ♗c5. Unfortunately, I was wrong, and the e4 idea only needed a little more support.] **28...♗×f8?** [28...♖×f8! 29.♖×a7 e4 30.♖×b7 e×f3 31.g4 f×g3 32.h×g3 ♖f4-+ and mates in a few moves. 33.♖×g7+ ♔h8□ *(33...♔×g7?? 34.♕c3+-)* ; 28...e4?? 29.♗×g7 e×f3?? Now White can sacrifice both his bishops and have a winning advantage. 30.♗×g6+ ♔×g7 31.♕c3+ ♔×g6 *(31...♔g8 32.♗h7+ ♔×h7 33.♕c7+-)* 32.g×f3+±] **29.♖×a7 ♖d7?!** [White is now better, but anything can happen in time pressure. 29...♗c5? fails due to the zwischenzug, ♖b7+. 30.♖×b7+ ♔h8 31.♕b1+□ ; 29...♗g7! 30.♖×b7 e4= Despite so much going on with Black brutally attacking the White king and White holding trumps on the queenside, Komodo says its a draw. 31.f×e4 ♘g4 32.♖f1 ♕h4 33.♖×g7+ *(33.h3 ♘f2+ 34.♔g1 ♘×h3+ 35.g×h3 ♕g3+=)* 33...♔×g7 34.♕c3+ ♔g8 35.h3 ♘f2+ 36.♔g1 ♘×h3+ 37.g×h3 ♕g3+ 38.♔h1 ♕×h3+=] **30.♕c3 ♘c4 31.♖a8?!** [31.♖a4! ♘b6 32.♕×e5 ♗c5 33.♖f1 ♕e3 34.♕×e3 f×e3 35.♖g4 ♖d6± Black is holding, but I think it will just be a matter of time for White to find a way.] **31...♗c5 32.♖f1 ♕d2?** [more time pressure inaccuracy. 32...♕b2! 33.♕c1 *(33.♕×b2 ♘×b2 34.♗b1 ♗e3∓)* 33...♕b4±] **33.♕×d2 ♘×d2 34.♖c1?** [34.♖d1! ♗e3 35.♖e8 e4 36.f×e4 d×e4 37.♗×e4±] **34...b6?** [Now, ♖×c5 is screaming to be played since Black cannot stop the b−pawn and the threat of b6 followed by ♖a7. 34...e4! 35.♗e2 *(35.♖×c5 e×d3 36.♖c1 ♘c4-+)* 35...♗e3±] **35.♖c2??** [White may have felt he was winning without the need for more messy tactics or perhaps he did not calculate ♖×c5 to its conclusion due to time constraints. 35.♖×c5! b×c5 36.b6 ♖d6 37.b7 ♖b6 38.b8♕±] **35...♗e3 36.♖cc8?=** [36.♖c6! e4 37.♗c2±] **36...e4□ 37.♗c2 ♗d4?!** [Inaccurate but with a clear idea to advance the e−pawn. 37...e×f3! 38.g×f3 ♘×f3 39.♖d8 ♖c7 40.♖ac8 ♖×c8! (40...♖a7? 41.a4 ♔g7 42.♖g8+ ♔f6 43.♖c6+ *(43.♖×g6+ ♔e5 44.♖×h6 ♘d2±)* 43...♔e5 44.♖e8+ ♔d4 45.♖×b6±) 41.♖×c8 ♔g7 42.♖c6 g5 43.♗b3 g4 44.a4 ♘d2 45.♗×d5 f3 46.♖e6 ♗c5 47.a5 f2 48.♗g2 b×a5 49.b6 ♗×b6 50.♖×b6 f1♕+ 51.♗×f1 ♘×f1 52.♔g2 ♘e3+=] **38.♖e8?=** [38.♖d8! ♖c7 39.♖ac8

♖×c8 40.♖×c8 e×f3 *(40...e3 41.♗d3±)* 41.♖c7+ ♔g8 42.g×f3 ♘×f3 43.♗×g6+-] **38...♖c7?** [38...♔g7!= 39.a4 e3 40.♗d3 ♗c5 41.♖ad8 ♖a7 42.h4 ♗e7=] **39.♖ac8 ♖a7** [39...♖×c8 40.♖×c8 ♔g7 41.♖d8±] **40.a4?** [40.f×e4! d×e4 41.♗×e4+-] **40...e3 41.♖c6?!±** [41.♗d3± keeping the passed pawn under lock and key as Nimzovich recommended.] **41...♘e4?** [The next to last mistake! 41...♔g7 42.♖×g6+ ♔f7 43.♖gg8 ♗c5 44.♗g6+ ♔f6=] **42.♖×e4??** [42.♗×e4! the only winning move. 42...d×e4 *(42...♖×a4?? 43.♗×g6+ ♔g7 44.♖e7+ ♔f8 45.♖f7+ ♔e8 46.♖c8#)* 43.♖×e4 ♗c5 44.g3+-; 42.f×e4 e2 43.e×d5 ♗e3 44.♗×g6+ ♔g7 45.♖c1=] **42...d×e4 43.♗×e4 e2 44.♖c1 ♗c3!** [One final tactic seals the deal. A very flawed but exciting game!] **0-1**

Round 2

Annotated by GM Pri Kannappan

Kannappan,Priyadharshan (2599) − Saleem,Arshaq (2209) [B90]
(2), 19.08.2017
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 c×d4 4.♘×d4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 [1:30:00] **a6** [1:31:00] **6.h4** [I wanted to play something that would lead to some very original positions, and h4 is an idea that has been a trending line in 2017 after the game Naroditsky−Zherebukh 2017] **6...e5 7.♘b3 ♗e6 8.♗g5?!** [This was a strategic mistake as combining h4 ♗g5 doesn't make any sense. 8.f4 g6 9.♗e2 ♘c6 10.g4 h6 11.g5 ♘d7 12.f5∞ Further tests are needed in this position to evaluate this line! As of now it seems to lead to wild complications] **8...♗e7 9.♕d2** [9.♗×f6 This would have lead the game to a positional battle 9...♗×f6 10.g3 0-0 11.♕d3 b5 12.♖d1 ♘d7 13.♕×d6 ♗e7 14.♕d3 ♘b6⩱] **9...♘bd7 10.f3** [1:15:00] **♖c8** [1:11:00] **11.0-0-0 0-0 12.g4 b5 13.♗×f6?!** [too premature ⌓13.♔b1 ♕c7 14.♘d5 ♗×d5 15.e×d5 ♘b6 16.♗×f6 a very typical Najdorf English attack position with both sides having their own trumps and a strategically balanced position] **13...♘×f6 14.♘d5 ♘×d5 15.e×d5** [1:06:00] **♗d7** [1:05:00] **16.♔b1 ♕b6∓** [Black up to this point, has played the most logical moves and has managed to seize the initiative and double bishops, due to the failure of my opening experimentation] **17.♗d3 f5 18.g×f5 ♗×f5 19.h5?!** [19.♕g2= would have given a chance for white to control the light squares after exchaning with ♗f5 and follow it up with ♕g4] **19...♔h8** [19...♗×d3∓ should be considered. 20.♕×d3 ♗g5∓] **20.h6?** [35:00. 20.♕g2= ♖f7 21.♖hg1 *(21.♗×f5 ♖×f5 22.♖d3 ♗g5∓)* 21...♗×d3 22.♖×d3∞] **20...g6∓** [40:00] **21.♗×f5** [28:00] **♖×f5** [Don't play 21...g×f5?! 22.♘a5±] **22.♕e2 ♗g5 23.♖d3 ♗f4 24.a3** [Let's look at this position from a strategic viewpoint. White has more or less all his pieces placed on the light squares because black has a dark squared bishop. The knight on b3 isn't doing much and white has no control of the semi open files, which means black is in the driver seat] **24...♖g5?= 25.♕e1?** [12:00. Tactics! ⌓25.♘d4 e×d4 26.♕e7 ♕c7 27.♕f6+ ♔g8 28.♕×f4 ♕×c2+ 29.♔a1 ♖e5 30.♕×d4=] **25...♖g2?** [Black should try 25...♖h5∓] **26.♖c3± ♖c7** [20:00]



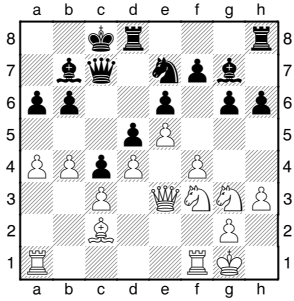
27.♕f1? [⌓27.♘a5!? ♗d2 **a)** 27...♖×c3± 28.♕×c3 ♕c5±; **b)** 27...♕×a5?? 28.♖c6!! ♕×e1+ *(28...♗d2 29.♖×d6 ♖e7 30.♕h4 ♗g5 31.♕h3+-)* 29.♖×e1 ♖h2 *(29...♖×c6? 30.d×c6+-)* 30.♖×c7 ♖×h6+-; 28.♕h4; White should play ⌓27.♘d4! ♖×c3 28.b×c3! *(28.♕×c3 ♕c5 29.♕×c5 d×c5 30.♘e6 ♖d2 31.♘×c5 ♖×d5 32.♘×a6 e4 33.f×e4 ♖h5*

34.♖e1=) 28...♕c7 29.♕h4 ♗g5 30.♕h3 ♖f2 31.♕g4 ♔g8 32.♕×g5 e×d4 33.♕f6 ♖e2 34.♕×d4+-] **27...♖g3** [27...♖×c3= 28.♕×g2 ♖c4∞] **28.♕d3?** [28.♕e1!± keeps the upper hand.] **28...♔g8** [28...♖g1+∓ 29.♖×g1 ♕×g1+ 30.♘c1 ♕b6] **29.♘c1!= ♗×c1 30.♖×c1** [8:00] **♖g1⇄** [Black puts up resistance 12:00] **31.♖×c7 ♖×c1+ 32.♔×c1 ♕×c7 33.b4 ♕b6 34.c4 b×c4 35.♕×c4** [2:00] **♕e3+** [4:00] **36.♔c2 ♕f2+ 37.♔b3 ♕×f3+ 38.♔a4 ♕f8??** [38...♕f6! 39.♔a5 ♕d8+ 40.♔×a6 ♔f7 41.b5 ♕a8+ 42.♔b6 ♕b8+ 43.♔a5 ♕a7+ 44.♔b4 ♔f6 45.a4 ♕g1 46.a5 ♕e1+ 47.♕c3 ♕b1+=] **39.♕×a6 e4 40.♕c4??** [I missed b5 in the time scramble, and that was my last chance to play for a win in this game. 40.b5+- e3 41.b6 ♕e8+ 42.♕b5 ♕e4+ 43.♕b4 ♕e8+ 44.♔b3] **40...♕e7=** [The position is equal.] **41.♕c8+ ♔f7 42.♕h8 ♕e8+! 43.♕×e8+ ♔×e8 44.♔b3⊙ g5⊙ 45.♔c3 g4 46.♔d4 g3 47.♔e3 ♔d7 48.a4 ♔c7 49.a5 ♔b7 50.b5 ♔a7 51.b6+ ♔a6 52.♔e2**
½-½

Magness,Trevor (2202) − Gareyev, Timur (2686) [B77] (2), 19.08.2017
1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 c×d4 4.♘×d4 ♘f6 5.♘c3 g6 6.♗e3 ♗g7 7.f3 ♘c6 8.♕d2 0-0 9.♗c4 ♗d7 10.0-0-0 ♖b8 11.♗b3 ♘a5 12.h4 h5 13.♔b1 b5 14.♔a1 ♘×b3+ 15.c×b3 b4 16.♘d5 ♘×d5 17.e×d5 ♕a5 18.♘c6 ♗×c6 19.d×c6 ♖fc8 20.♖c1 ♖b5 21.g4 ♕a6 22.♕d3 ♖×c6 23.♖×c6 ♕×c6 24.g×h5 ♕×f3 25.♖f1 ♖d5 26.♕c4 ♖d1+ 27.♖×d1 ♕×d1+ 28.♗c1 ♗h6 0-1

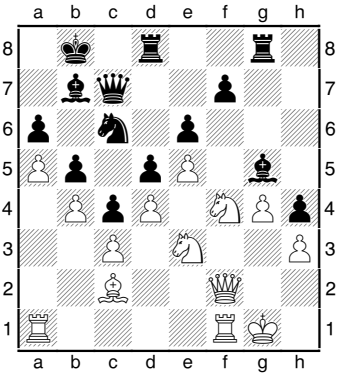
Annotated by Bob Keating

Keating,Robert F (2032) − Brooks, Michael A (2391) [B06] (2), 19.08.2017
1.e4 d6 2.d4 g6 [The last couple times I faced IM Brooks with White, he played the Sicilian Najdorf. For this game, he chose to use my own Black system against me. I don't know if it was intentional or not.] **3.♘c3 ♗g7 4.f4 e6** [This is down the list in popularity. He is heading for a Hippopotamus setup, which I would not normally play against the Austrian Attack.] **5.♘f3 ♘e7 6.♗e3 ♘d7 7.♗d3 a6 8.a4** [This essentially compels White to finish the Hippo.] **8...b6 9.♘e2** [I considered ♕d2 and 0-0, but I wanted to have option to answer c5 with c3 to bolster my center.] **9...c5 10.c3 h6 11.♕d2 ♕c7 12.b3?** [This is unnecessary, but I feared that Black would play c4 to permanently isolate my a−pawn, which he could win at a point of his choosing later on. Of course, White should be thinking more about attacking the Black king than the remote loss of a pawn on the far side of the board. 12.0-0 c4 13.♗c2 That a−pawn doesn't look very vulnerable right now; however, if enough pieces are traded, including White's light−squared bishop, it will be a real weakness.] **12...♗b7 13.0-0 ♘f6 14.♘g3 d5!?** [This is interesting since Black voluntarily restrict his ♗b7 and invites White to gain central space with a pawn wedge in the center pointing toward the kingside.] **15.e5 ♘g4!?** [I was expecting ♘e4. With my central pawns locked on dark squares, I would be happy to trade by dark square bishop for a Black knight.] **16.b4!?** [My idea with this pawn push was to keep the a8-h1 diagonal closed and avoid a backward pawn on c3 on a semi−open file, either of which would have occurred hat Black been able to play c4 with the White pawn still on b3.] **16...c4 17.♗c2 0-0-0!?** [I was expecting Black to play h5 so as to preserve his knight in this very closed position.] **18.h3 ♘e3 19.♕×e3** [In this equal



position, I expected to be able to do no worse than a draw. Unfortunately, while

my further play proved to be rather listless, Black engineered a plan to "squeeze water out of a stone."] **19...♔b8 20.♘e2 ♗c8 21.a5?!** [IM Brooks indicated this to be a strategic mistake after the game since the locked queenside ensures the safety of the Black king. Once again, I was worried about ghosts, thinking that Black could either attack a4 more than I could defend it or that he could advance a5 and create inroads on the f8-a3 diagonal. Neither "threat" was real.] **21...b5 22.♔f2?** [I thought I would be able to march my king over to b2 but then became scared of possible ♘×b4 or ♘×a5 ideas.] **22...♘c6 23.g3 ♖hg8 24.♔g2 ♗f8 25.♕d2 ♗e7 26.♘h2 ♗b7** [While White has been shuffling his pieces back and forth, Black has been meticulously preparing for the upcoming central breakthrough. Each of his pieces is now optimally placed.] **27.♘g4?!** [My idea was to encourage Black to lock the kingside for a draw. I did not want to open the kingside, myself since my king was there and Black's pieces could get there quickly.] **27...h5 28.♘e3?!** [Not immediately losing, but White's pieces are very discoordinated despite seemingly having more space than Black. 28.♘f6! ♗×f6 29.e×f6= e5 30.f×e5 ♘×e5 31.♖ae1!± *(31.d×e5?! d4+ 32.♔h2 d3 33.♘d4 d×c2 34.♕e3=)*] **28...h4 29.g4** [29.g×h4 ♖h8 30.♘g4 ♖×h4 31.♖h1∓ White should be able to hold.] **29...g5** [Komodo says 0.00. What should White do?] **30.♔g1** [seemingly better than ♔h1 since the king is off the a8-h1 diagonal. 30.f5? ♘×e5 31.f×e6 *(31.d×e5? d4+-+)* 31...f×e6 32.♖f2 ♘c6-+; 30.f×g5? ♗×g5-+ and the pin is very unpleasant.; 30.♔h1 Perhaps best, but how to know at this point?; 30.♔h2? g×f4 31.♘×f4 ♘×e5 32.d×e5 ♕×e5 33.♖ae1 ♗f6 34.♘d1 ♕c7 35.♔g1 d4 with play similar to the game.; 30.♔f2? g×f4 31.♘×f4 ♘×e5 32.d×e5 d4 33.c×d4 ♕×e5∓] **30...g×f4 31.♘×f4 ♗g5** [Komodo thinks the position is equal or perhaps slightly better for White. Only one move preserves the balance but only if Black's plan is recognized. 31...♘×e5 This sacrifice, well known to those who play the French Defense, can be played at this time, but Black makes use of one more bit of preparation. 32.d×e5 ♕×e5 33.♖ae1 ♕c7 34.♘eg2 d4 35.♗e4 d×c3 36.♕×c3 ♗×e4 37.♖×e4 ♕d6 38.♕e3=] **32.♕f2?∓**

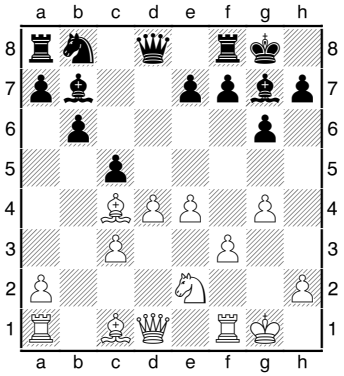


[Completely oblivious to Black's plan, I defended against him playing f6 or f5. My next move would have been ♘h5 or ♘eg2. Now, it's Black to play and win in brilliant fashion. 32.♖ae1! ♘×e5 33.d×e5 d4 34.♘eg2 ♗×g2 35.♔×g2 f6 36.♕f2 f×e5 37.♘h5 d3 38.♗d1 d2 39.♖e2 ♖d3 40.♕c5=; 32.♖ad1?! ♘×e5 33.d×e5 ♕×e5 34.♘eg2 f5 35.♕d4 ♕d6 36.♕b6 ♕×b6+ 37.a×b6 ♖d6 38.♔h2 e5 39.♘e2 f4∓; 32.♘eg2?! f6 *(32...♘×e5?! 33.d×e5 ♕×e5 34.♕d4 ♕c7 35.♖ae1 ♖ge8 36.♘h5 e5 37.♕f2 d4 38.♘f6±)* 33.e×f6 e5 34.d×e5 ♘×e5 35.♕f2 ♖d6 36.f7 ♘×f7 37.♖ad1∓] **32...♘×e5!** [After this, White position quickly crumbles.] **33.d×e5** [33.♖ae1 ♘c6-+ Up a pawn with better coordination and pawn breaks available, Black should win.] **33...♕×e5 34.♖a3** [I thought this would stump him, but it is only a minor bump in the road.] **34...d4!** [Obvious and decisive. The rest is a matter of technique for Black and no chance for White. I commend IM Brooks for conducting an excellent lesson in how to plan and prepare an attack against a closed and seemingly drawn position.] **35.c×d4 ♖×d4 36.♘eg2 ♖gd8 37.♖e3 ♕d6 38.♖e2 ♕×b4 39.♘h5 ♖d2 40.♖fe1 ♕c3 41.♗b1 ♕×h3 42.♕b6 ♖×e2 0-1**

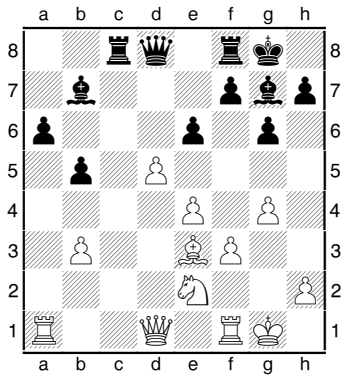
Annotated by GM Alex Yermolinsky

Zagar,Dane − Yermolinsky,Alex [D86] (2), 19.08.2017

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 [Facing Dane Zagar, a friend of Dane Mattson and the tournament director of the Twin Ports Open, the tournament I played a weekend before, I figured he wouldn't have much of a chance to brush up on the vast theory in the Grunfeld.] **3.♘c3 d5 4.c×d5 ♘×d5 5.e4 ♘×c3 6.b×c3 ♗g7 7.♗c4 0-0 8.♘e2 b6** [Normally, I stay away from this risky move, instead, relying on 8...Qd7] **9.0-0** [Indeed, he didn't spend much time on this obvious, yet not the most critical, move. 9.h4! is known to be strong.] **9...♗b7 10.f3 c5** [10...♘c6 11.♗e3 ♘a5 12.♗d3 ♕d7 would be getting back to my old garbagey line.] **11.g4?!** [I bet no one ever thought of this move.]



[11.♗e3 c×d4 12.c×d4 ♘c6 13.♖c1 ♖c8 14.♕d2 e6 15.♖fd1 ♕d6±] **11...♘c6 12.♗e3 c×d4 13.c×d4 ♖c8 14.♗b5?!** [Already here Dane began to entertain an idea of a typical exchange sac. 14.♖c1 ♘a5 15.♗d3 ♖×c1 16.♕×c1 ♘c6=] **14...a6 15.♗a4** [Is too late for White to switch to usual positional tracks: 15.♗×c6 ♗×c6 16.a4 b5 17.d5 ♗d7 18.a×b5 ♗×a1 19.♕×a1 ♗×b5 20.♗h6 f6 21.♗×f8 ♗×e2 22.♖f2 ♕b6 23.♗×e7 ♗×f3∓] **15...♘a5 16.d5!?** [Not looking back! Same applies here: White can longer continue in a normal fashion, 16.♖c1 ♘c4 17.♗f4 b5 18.♗b3 ♕b6∓] **16...b5 17.♗b3 ♘×b3 18.a×b3 e6!** [The best practical decision.]



[18...♗×a1 19.♕×a1 f6 20.♘d4 ♕d6 21.♖f2 ♕e5 22.♕e1⩲] **19.d×e6?** [I was confident White's positional compensation wouldn't be that overwhelming after 19.♗d4 e×d5 20.♗×g7 ♔×g7 21.♕d4+ ♔g8 22.e5 ♖e8 Still, that was the way to go.] **19...♗×a1!** [Only now! 19...f×e6 20.♗d4 e5 favors Black as well.] **20.♕×a1** [20.e×f7+ ♖×f7 21.♕×a1 ♕d3 is a nice and simple double attack.] **20...f×e6 21.♘d4** [In case of 21.♘f4 ♖c6 22.♕e5 ♕f6 beats it off.] **21...♕f6 22.g5 ♕e7 23.e5** [That's exactly where I wanted the white pawns to go. Although, 23.b4 e5 didn't look too promising for White either.] **23...♖cd8 24.b4?⊕ ♕×b4 25.♕a2 ♖×d4 26.♕×e6+ ♔h8 27.♕b6 ♖g4+ 0-1**

Round 3

Gareyev,Timur (2686) − Iwu, Okechukwu (2245) [D15] (3), 19.08.2017

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.♘c3 d×c4 5.e3 b5 6.a4 b4 7.♘e2 a5 8.♘f4 ♗a6 9.♘e5 e6 10.♕f3 ♖a7 11.♗×c4 ♗×c4 12.♘×c4 ♗e7 13.0-0 0-0 14.e4 ♕×d4 15.♗e3 ♕×c4 16.♗×a7 ♕×e4 17.♕×e4 ♘×e4 18.♖ac1 ♗g5 19.♗e3 ♗f6 20.♘d3 ♖d8 21.♖fd1 ♖d5 22.♗a7 ♘d7 23.♖×c6 g5 24.♖cc1 ♗d4 25.♗×d4 ♖×d4 26.f3 ♘ef6 27.♘f2 ♖f4 28.♘e4 ♖f5 29.♖c8+ ♔g7 30.♖c7 ♘e5 31.♘d6 ♖f4 32.♖c5 ♘d5 33.♖×a5 ♘e3 34.♖e1 1-0

Yermolinsky,Alex (2564) − Neal,James Alex (2250) [D37] (3), 19.08.2017

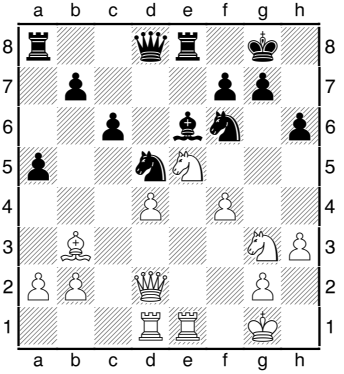
1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘f3 d5 4.♘c3 a6 5.c×d5 e×d5 6.♗g5 c6 7.♕c2 ♗e6 8.e3 ♗d6 9.♗d3 ♘bd7 10.♗h4 ♗g4 11.0-0 ♕c7 12.♗g3 ♗×g3 13.h×g3 ♗h5 14.b4 ♗g6 15.a4 ♗×d3 16.♕×d3 0-0 17.b5 a×b5 18.a×b5 ♘b6 19.b×c6 b×c6 20.♖ac1 ♘c4 21.e4 ♖fc8 22.♖fe1 ♕d8 23.e5 ♘d7 24.e6 f×e6 25.♖×e6 ♘f8 26.♖e2 ♕d7 27.♘e4 ♖a3 28.♕c2 ♖e8 29.♖ce1 ♖×e4 30.♖×e4 d×e4 31.♕×c4+ ♕d5 32.♘e5 ♕×c4 33.♘×c4 ♖a4 34.♘e5 ♖×d4 35.♘×c6 ♖a4 36.♘e7+ ♔f7 37.♘d5 ♖c4 38.♖a1 ♘d7 39.g4 ♖d4 40.♘e3 g6 41.♔h2 h6 42.♔g3 ♘c5 43.♖a7+ ♔f6 44.♖a5 ♘e6 45.♘d5+ ♔f7 46.♖a7+ ♔f8 47.♘f4 ♘×f4 48.♔×f4 e3+ ½-½

Round 4

Annotated by Joseph Wan

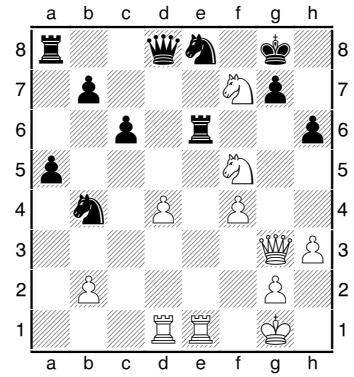
Wan,Joseph (2256) − Gareyev,Timur (2686) [C54] (4), 20.08.2017

1.e4 [Playing GM Gareyev was certainly an honor, especially on board one after a 3-0 start in the Iowa Open! I started off with my usual King's Pawn.] **1...e5** [The night before, at the Iowa Quick Championship, Gareyev had played the Sicilian Defense. After a good opening position and some complications, I, unfortunately, lost.] **2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗c4** [I chose to play the Italian Game instead of the much more popular Ruy Lopez.] **3...♗c5 4.c3 ♘f6 5.d3 d6 6.♘bd2 ♘e7!?** [An interesting move. Black plans to shift the knight over to "g6" before each side castles. I had expected 0-0.] **7.♘f1** [So I respond the same way, preparing to move my knight to "g3".] **7...♘g4?!** [After this, White is better. Black should just castle or play 5... ♘g6 instead of allowing White to build a center and hit the black bishop.] **8.d4 e×d4 9.c×d4 ♗b4+ 10.♗d2 ♗×d2+ 11.♕×d2 0-0** [Now, Black's objective is to get in the advance ...d5, to break open the position and saddle White with an isolated pawn. As happens in the game, a tough battle ensues with White having the attacking chances.] **12.♘g3** [Calmly preparing castling.] **12...d5 13.e×d5 ♘×d5 14.0-0 c6 15.♖fe1 ♘gf6 16.h3!?** [Slow. Perhaps the immediate 16.♘e5 is better. I had the idea of swinging the White rook to "d1", and I didn't want to deal with the annoying ... ♗g4.] **16...h6 17.♖ad1 ♗e6 18.♘e5** [I felt quite confident of my position here, as I have the knight on "e5" "counteracting" his knight on "d5", and I have strong ideas of starting a kingside attack with f4, ♕f2, ♗d3, ♘f5, etc.] **18...♖e8 19.♗b3 a5 20.f4?!**



[Rightly criticized by Gareyev. Better was 20.a3, avoiding ♘b4 trading off the bishops, and then retreating the bishop to "c2". 20.a3 a4 21.♗c2 ♕a5 22.♕c1 ♖ad8 23.♘f5±] **20...♘b4!** [Now I'm forced to exchange off my good bishop.] **21.♗×e6 ♖×e6 22.♕f2?** [Oof. If I had known that giving up the "a2" pawn would cost me so much in the future, I would've simply played 22.a3. This indeed was the best move. 22.a3 ♘bd5 23.♕f2 ♕b6 24.♘f5 ♖ae8 25.♔h2= with some ideas of an attack.] **22...♘×a2** [Now, I'm forced to attack. If I sit around, Black's pawn will prove decisive.] **23.♘f5** [Opening the way for some ♕g3 ideas. It could also potentially pave the way for moving my "g" pawn in the future.] **23...♘b4?** [Black allows White an extremely hard to find resource which should draw. 23...♘d5 24.♕f3 ♕f6 25.♕g4 ♘ab4 26.♖f1 ♖ae8∓ Black should be able to defend and eventually realize his extra pawn.] **24.g4?** [Too wild. Better was to use the Queen instead of exposing the king unnecessarily. From this point, watch

Black's "a" pawn. I really start to regret giving up "a2". 24.♕g3 ♘e8 25.♘×f7!! Now,



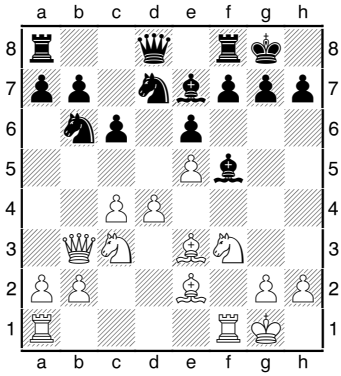
how would a human ever find this move and the ensuing variation? 25...♔×f7 26.♖×e6 ♔×e6 27.♖e1+ ♔d7 28.♘×g7!! ♘×g7 *(28...♘f6? 29.♘e6 ♕g8 30.♘c5+ ♔d8 31.♘×b7+ ♔c8 32.♖e8+!!* What a brilliant tactic! *32...♔×b7 33.♖×g8 ♖×g8 34.♕h4±)* 29.♕×g7+ ♔d6 *(29...♔c8?? 30.♖e7!+-* White will win the queen with either ♖f7 and f8, or ♕f7 and ♖e8.*)* 30.♕e5+ ♔d7 31.♕g7+ with perpetual!] **24...♘e8 25.♔h2 ♘d6** [Getting rid of White's dangerous knight on "f5" in some way, shape or form. White can either exchange or retreat.] **26.♘g3** [26.♘×d6 ♕×d6 27.g5 h×g5 28.f×g5 ♖f8 29.h4 f6 30.g×f6 ♖e×f6-+] **26...a4?** [Allowing White yet another resource. 26...♘d5 27.♘h5 a4∓ would've transposed back into the game, but I would've had nothing better than to play 27.♘h5.] **27.♘h5?** [Now this tactic I should've seen. 27.♘×f7!! The theme move comes back! 27...♔×f7 *(27...♖×e1 28.♘×d8 ♖×d1 29.♕e2=)* 28.♖×e6 ♔×e6 29.♕e1+! ♔d7 30.♕×b4∓ Black is still better after 30... ♕a5, but the advantage is significantly smaller as White has restored material equality.] **27...♘d5∓ 28.h4?!** [Trying to continue my attack. But now the "a" pawn ruins everything. 28.g5 h×g5 29.♘×f7 ♔×f7 30.f×g5+ ♔e7 31.♘×g7 ♖×e1 32.♖×e1+ ♔d7 33.♘e6 ♕g8∓] **28...a3! 29.b×a3 ♖×a3 30.f5 ♖e8 31.g5** [My last ditch effort at an attack.] **31...h×g5 32.♖g1 f6 33.h×g5 f×e5** [Black now wins a piece. The game ends shortly.] **34.f6 ♘f4 35.♘×f4 e×f4 36.♕×f4 ♖e4 37.♕f2 ♕d7 38.♖g3 ♖h4+ 39.♔g1 ♖×g3+ 40.♕×g3 ♖g4** [I resigned here. What a crazy game to be able to play against a GM. The trouble for me all started when I let him take on "a2", but I had my chances later on and failed to see them. Overall a very fun game, and congratulations to GM Timur Gareyev, who went on to defeat IM Sean Nagle in the 5th round and win the tournament.] **0-1**

Nagle,Sean M (2560) − Brooks,Michael (2391) [B06] (4), 20.08.2017
1.♘f3 g6 2.d4 ♗g7 3.e4 d6 4.♗c4 e6 5.♗b3 ♘d7 6.♘c3 h6 7.♘e2 ♘e7 8.0-0 b6 9.♕d3 0-0 10.♗d2 ♗b7 11.♖fe1 c5 12.c3 d5 13.e×d5 ♘×d5 14.♖ad1 c×d4 15.♘f×d4 ♘c5 16.♕h3 e5 17.♘c2 ♘×b3 18.a×b3 ♕c8 19.♕h4 ♕c6 20.♕h3 ♖ad8 21.c4 ♘f4 22.♘×f4 e×f4 23.♘b4 ♕c5 24.♗c3 f3 25.♗×g7 ♔×g7 26.♘d5 ♗×d5 27.c×d5 ♖×d5 28.♕×f3 ♖fd8 ½-½

Annotated by NM Trevor Magness

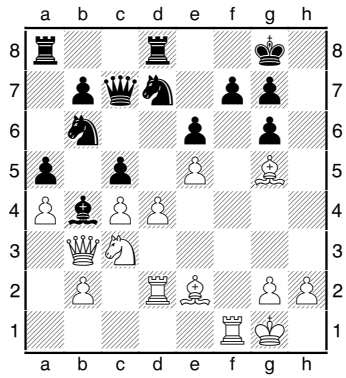
Magness,Trevor (2202) − Lu,Morgan (1647) [B12] (4), 20.08.2017
1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.f3!? [The "Fantasy" variation of the Caro−Kann, slightly inaccurate from a theoretical standpoint, but only in the sense that the position is now equal with correct play. From a practical perspective, meanwhile the move 3.f3 can be a bit annoying for a Caro−Kann enthusiast to face. The main point of the move is that White's e4-f3 pawn structure keeps Black from developing his light−squared bishop to a nice square. The downside is that White restricts the development of his own g1 knight, and if Black continues with the solid 3...e6 or even 3...g6 he will get a reasonable game. But these are not the most natural moves to play if you are used to developing your light−squared bishop to g6.] **3...d×e4** [This capture is a bit of an inaccuracy. Black chooses the most direct response to White's third move but in the process trades his valuable d5 pawn for White's f3 pawn. The one advantage of

this move from Black's perspective is that it compromises White's kingside protection. Black must try to exploit this or else he will get into early difficulties. 3...g6 Is Black's most flexible choice. After 4.♘c3 ♗g7 5.♗e3 he can bother White's queenside with 5...♕b6⇄ while retaining options in the center: he keeps the h3-c8 diagonal open for now and also maintains his central d5 pawn.; 3...e6 is Black's most solid and likely most correct choice. After 4.♘c3 ♗b4= The insertion of c6 and f3 gives Black a slightly improved version of the French Winawer, as White does not have the thematic ♕g4 anymore to target the weak g7 pawn. *(4...♘f6* is also possible, and after *5.e5 ♘fd7 6.f4 c5* we simply have the main line of the French Steinitz.*)*] **4.f×e4 ♘f6?** [This is now a definite mistake. After White's next move Black will have an inferior version of the Alekhine (which is already a bit of a risky opening on a good day). 4...e5! is the only good way for Black to continue after 3...f×e4. He strikes in the center knowing that white dare not capture on e5 (♕h4+ would then be wonderful for black). However, Black is not entirely out of danger. White instead plays 5.♘f3 and after 5...e×d4 6.♗c4! when he will have very good compensation for the pawn. *(6.♘×d4?* allows *6...♕h4+; 6.♕×d4?! ♕×d4 7.♘×d4* is simply an endgame where Black is slightly better on account of his superior pawn structure.*)* For example, 6...♘f6 7.0-0 ♘bd7 8.♕e1 ♘b6 9.♗b3 ♗e6 *(9...♗c5 10.♘g5! 0-0 11.♗×f7+ ♖×f7 12.♘×f7 ♔×f7 13.e5 d3+ 14.♔h1 d×c2 15.♘c3 ♕d3 16.e×f6 g×f6 17.♘e4*± and White is up the exchange and a nice attack for two pawns.*)* 10.♘g5 ♗×b3 11.c×b3! ↑ *(11.a×b3 d3 12.e5 ♘g4 13.♘×f7 ♕d4+ 14.♔h1 d×c2 15.♘×h8 c×b1♕ 16.♖×b1 ♗c5∞)*] **5.e5 ♘d5 6.c4 ♘b6** [This is now an Alekhine structure with two key differences. First, Black has already traded his d−pawn for White's f−pawn, which means he has fewer ways of striking at White's central pawn mass. Second, and perhaps more importantly, the move c6 has weakened the d6 square. As soon as black plays ♗f5 and e6 the d6 square will beckon for a White knight.] **7.♘c3 ♗f5 8.♘f3 e6 9.♗e3** [there is nothing particularly wrong this this specific move, but it is the first sign of a misunderstanding of the position. Black's bright spot in the position is currently his bishop on f5, which has successfully developed outside the pawn chain and now controls the e4 square, keeping white from playing ♘e4-d6. It is therefore in White's interest to remove this f5 bishop from the board. 9.♗d3! Was logical and strong. After 9...♗×d3 10.♕×d3 ♗e7 11.0-0 ♘8d7 12.♕e2 *(12.♘e4* is a little hasty as Black has the rejoinder *12...♘c5!?)* 12...0-0 13.♗f4± White has a space advantage and an easier time developing his pieces. He can now start to consider how the e4 and d6 squares might be of use to his knights.] **9...♘8d7 10.♗e2** [White develops his light−squared bishop to a more modest square in order to keep more pieces on the board and exploit Black's spatial disadvantage. However, as we have already established, this underestimates the importance of Black's bishop on f5.] **10...♗e7 11.0−0 0−0 12.♕b3?!** [this is



the point of no return as far as white's optimal opening strategy is concerned. White retains the nicer position due to his advantage in space, but the bishop on f5 remains on the board for now. Later in the game white indeed tried to remove this bishop from the board, but although he was successful the analysis will show he

should not have been so fortunate. 12.♗d3 ♗×d3 13.♕×d3 h6 14.♖ad1± is still excellent for White despite the loss of tempo with ♗e2-d3.] **12...♕c7 13.♖fd1?!** [This misstep is another casualty of White's misunderstanding of the position. The d1 square is a nice enough square for a rook, to be sure, but White's active prospects lie primarily not in the center or on the queenside but on the kingside. By removing the rook from the f-file White gives Black a chance for counterplay.] **13...♖fd8?!** [Black misses his opportunity. 13...f6! was very effective. Black breaks down White's pawn center and opens up the kingside to his advantage now that White's pieces are pointed in the wrong direction. After 14.e×f6 ♘×f6 White must find 15.g3! not to get into trouble himself, and after *(15.♖ac1? ♘g4 16.♗d2 ♗d6→)* 15...♘bd7 16.♗f4 ♕b6⇄ Black has nearly equalized, although his weaker pawn structure may leave White with chances for the advantage.] **14.a4** [The threat of gaining space with a5 demands that Black play a5 himself. At first this insertion of a4 and a5 looks good for Black, as he can use the b4 square as an outpost while the b5 square is still protected by the c6 pawn. However, White has calculated that in the future it will likely be necessary for black to break in the center with c5, at which point the b5 and d6 squares will become serious weaknesses.] **14...a5 15.♖d2?!** [A rather puzzling move in retrospect. White is not particularly interested in doubling rooks on the d-file, as a d5-thrust would likely only allow Black to trade off a bunch of material and become less cramped. Meanwhile the rook sits on the d1-a5 diagonal and thus makes Black's outpost on b4 more valuable. 15.♘g5 was a better choice, activating the f3 knight and making overtures towards a kingside attack. After 15...♗b4 16.♖f1 ♗g6 *(16...c5* now allows *17.♘b5 ♕b8 18.♗d3!* (once again the important move!) *18...h6 19.♗×f5 h×g5 20.♗c2* with a deadly attack.*)* 17.♗f3 h6 18.♘ge4 ♘c8 19.♖ad1± White has the far more active position.] **15...♗b4!** [with the rook on d2 this move is very effective, and now Black can dream of playing c5. This will allow ♘b5, but after the queen retreats the threat against the d2 rook will keep White from creating an initiative.] **16.♘h4** [White finally decides to remove the f5 bishop from the board. We know that this is a good idea in theory, and it also attempts to exploit a downside of Black's last move, which gave up control of the h4 square. However, White loses control of the center at a rather critical moment. Black could have responded energetically, exploiting the d2 rook's location and the sudden tenderness of the d4 and e5 pawns.] **16...♗g6?!** [This move is too accommodating. White now gets the trade of minor pieces that he wanted. 16...c5! was the proper response, creating play against White's center. White can now try 17.♘b5 ♕b8 but afterwards he must save his d2 rook, allowing Black's f5 bishop to sneak to e4. 18.♖dd1 ♗e4 19.♘f3 h6! after this move Black is only slightly worse. He is now prepared to respond to ♘d6 with ♗h7, saving his bishop. 20.♘d6 ♗h7⇄ White has established a knight on d6, but Black is creating counterplay against White's center.] **17.♘×g6 h×g6 18.♖f1** [a rook reappears along the f-file. White's pieces are starting to orient themselves in the right direction, although it would have been easier to begin with if the other rook had just remained on f1.] **18...c5** [It is important for Black to create counterplay in the center, as otherwise White will transfer his pieces towards the exposed Black kingside and eventually give checkmate.] **19.♗g5?** [A very serious mistake. White plans the exchange sacrifice that eventually did occur in the game, but he overlooks the powerful rejoinder now at Black's disposal. 19.♘b5 Was stronger. After 19...♕c8 White must take a timeout and play 20.♖dd1 allowing Black to trade on d4. However, after 20...c×d4 21.♗×d4 ♗c5 22.♕e3 ♗×d4 23.♖×d4± White still has the more active pieces and the advantage that comes with them.]



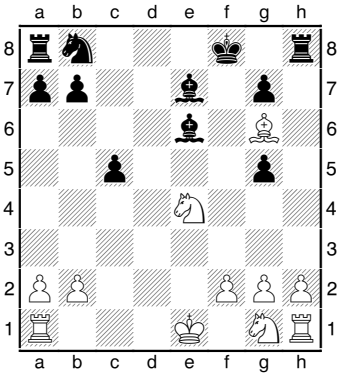
19...♖dc8? [Black misses his greatest and final chance. White now develops a winning attack. 19...c×d4! was the key move. Black exploits the weakness of White's ♘f3-h4-×g6 and ♗e3-g5 moves, which left the center grievously underprotected. After 20.♗×d8 ♖×d8 21.♘b5 ♕×e5-+ White's position is collapsing, and Black is not even down in material, as he has two pawns for the exchange. The game might continue 22.♖c2 ♘c5 23.♕f3 ♕f5 24.♗d1 d3 25.♖cf2 ♘e4 26.g4 ♕×f3 27.♖×f3 ♘×c4 and Black wins. There is a certain irony here. White envisioned an exchange sacrifice to create an attack, yet exposed himself to a powerful exchange sacrifice by Black. Black then overlooks his potential exchange sacrifice, and thus falls victim to White's original sacrificial plan.] **20.♘b5 ♕b8 21.♘d6!** [This is the point of White's previous maneuvers. With the f−file and third rank open he can ignore the threat to his rook and instead create threats against the Black king. There does not appear to be any defense for Black anymore.] **21...♗×d2** [21...♖f8 22.♕h3 f5 may have been more tenacious, although after 23.e×f6! ♕×d6 24.♗f4! ♕c6 25.f×g7 ♖f5 26.g4 ♗×d2 27.g×f5 e×f5 28.♗×d2+- White's attack will carry the day.] **22.♗×d2** [the bishop vacates the g5 square, which the d6 knight will soon be ready to use.] **22...♖f8 23.♕h3** [with the threat of ♘e4-g5.] **23...♕d8** [This prevents mate for the moment but doesn't save the game. 23...c×d4 also loses. 24.♘e4 f6 *(24...♕×e5 25.♘g5+-* and Black must give up his queen to avoid immediate mate.*; 24...♘×e5 25.♘g5 ♖d8 26.♕h7+ ♔f8* and now the precise *27.♘×f7! ♘×f7 28.♗g5!* is the prettiest and most effective way of ending the game. *28...♔e8 29.♕×g7 ♔d7 30.♖×f7+ ♔c6 31.♗f3++-)* 25.♗g4! the threat of ♗×e6 forces Black to allow the White knight to come to g5. 25...f5 26.♘g5 ♖e8 27.♕h7+ ♔f8 28.♕×g6 ♘×e5 29.♘×e6+-] **24.♘e4 f6 25.♕×e6+ ♖f7 26.♘d6 ♕e7** [this was the point of ♕e7. Black hopes for ♕×f7 ♕×f7 ♘×f7 ♔×f7, when he will only be down a pawn and can still hope to save the game.] **27.d5!** [After this reinforcement Black is out of resources.] **27...♕×e6** [27...♖af8 28.♘×f7 ♖×f7 29.♕×e7 ♖×e7 30.e6+- and White's passed pawns will decide the game.] **28.d×e6 ♖e7 29.e×d7 ♘×d7 30.♗f3!** [After ♘×e5 material will for a brief moment technically be equal: two bishops for rook and pawn. However White is completely winning thanks to the overwhelming activity of his minor pieces.] **30...♘×e5 31.♗d5+ ♔f8 32.♗e3 ♖c7 33.♘b5** [the c7 rook is overworked. Either the b7 or c5 pawn must fall.] **33...♖d7 34.♗×c5+ ♔e8 35.♗e6** [and now one of the rooks is lost.] **35...♖c8 36.♗×d7+ ♔×d7 37.♖d1+ ♔e6 38.♖d6+ ♔f5 39.♖d5 ♔e4 40.♘d6+ 1-0**

Annotated by Benjamin Darr

Reynolds,Robert (1967) − Darr, Benjamin (1778) [D32] (4), 20.08.2017
1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 c5 [I've been playing the Tarrasch for awhile, with decent results out of the opening. This game is an exception, however.] **4.c×d5 e×d5 5.e4** [Already I'm out of book, as I've never seen this gambit before. The database tells me it's called the Marshall Gambit. That's the third Marshall gambit I've learned about−−I wonder how many more there are!] **5...d×e4 6.♗c4** [Robert follows up in true gambit style.] **6...♘f6 7.♕b3** [I hadn't even considered the possibility of this bishop−queen battery. I think black is fine here, but I was feeling uncomfortable

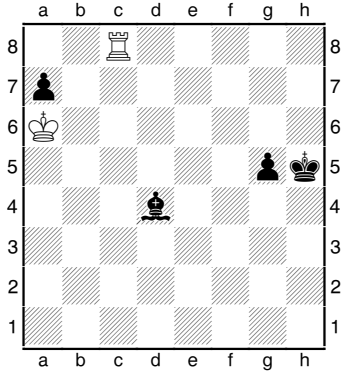
and lashed out with the following mistake:]

7...♗e6? [I was expecting ♗×e6 and ♕×b7, but didn't anticipate Reynold's straightforward response.] **8.d5** [This forces me to look silly and take back my last move, but capturing on e6 was stronger. 8.♗×e6! f×e6 9.♕×e6+ ♗e7 10.d×c5 and white will be keeping both the pawn and the initiative..; 8.♕×b7?? ♗×c4 9.♕×a8 c×d4 10.♘×e4 ♗d5 11.♘×f6+ g×f6 And black will grab white's king's rook.] **8...♗c8 9.♗g5 h6 10.d6** [A nice finesse. Black can't take on g5 due to mate threats.] **10...♗×d6** [This keeps my pawn advantage while clearing f8 for my king. 10...h×g5 11.♗×f7+ ♔d7 12.♕e6+ ♔c6 13.d7+ ♔c7 14.♘b5#] **11.♗×f7+ ♔f8 12.♗g6 ♕e7** [Probably ♕d7 is better here too, but again, I didn't want to block in my queen bishop. That's why I play the Tarrasch, after all, so I'm stubborn about it. More concretely, I thought I could meet ♘d5 with ♗e6.] **13.♘d5 ♕e6** [13...♗e6?! I now realized that this move runs into a lot of complications after a well-timed ♘c8, hitting my d6 bishop. A sample line: 14.♘×e7 ♗×b3 15.♗×f6 g×f6 16.♘c8 ♗c7 17.a×b3 ♘c6 18.♘×a7 ♖×a7 19.♖×a7 ♘×a7 20.♗×e4 and white is up a valuable pawn.] **14.♘×f6 h×g5** [Finally I can make good on my threat to the bishop on g5. As a bonus, I activate my king's rook.] **15.♕×e6 ♗×e6** [With my king stuck in the middle, and with the two bishops, I'm happy to trade queens.] **16.♘×e4 ♗e7** [We've

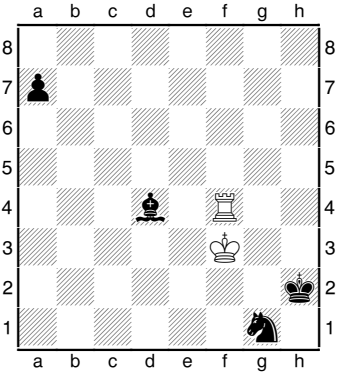


navigated a lot of tactical complications, and material is now equal, except that black has the bishop pair. And, all of the sudden it is black who has the initiative, as I am threatening to trap the bishop on g6 with ♖h6.] **17.♘c3 ♘c6 18.0-0-0 ♖d8** [Activating my last piece, I felt confident in my position here, especially with the advantage of the two bishops.] **19.♘ge2 ♖×d1+** [I wanted to make white recapture with the king, and to trade off more pieces so my bishop pair could make itself felt.] **20.♔×d1 ♘d4** [This is a natural centralizing move, and I was concerned with white playing ♗e4 and trading on c6 to double my pawns.] **21.h3 ♖h6** [Perhaps b6 first would have been better, so ♗e4 wouldn't contain any threats. The text move does give the black rook more mobility, though.] **22.♗e4 ♘×e2?!** [Making white capture again with the king, removing a defender, and trading off pieces to make my bishop pair better. This does help white to find a good place for his rook, though. It also trades of my own best piece.] **23.♔×e2 ♗c4+ 24.♔d2 g4** [This is a good idea, but probably not at this time. Holding on to my three healthy queenside pawns was called for.] **25.♗×b7** [I was happy at the time when white played this. However, I think it's his best shot to equalize here.] **25...♖b6 26.b3** [White finds a strong defensive resource. It seems that the earlier ♗c4+ hasn't helped black at all.] **26...♖×b7** [I was excited to get my rook to the seventh rank and start eating up white's pawns. 26...♗×b3 27.a×b3 ♖×b7 28.♔c2 This seems to be easier on white than the line I chose in the game.] **27.b×c4 ♖b2+ 28.♔d3 ♖×f2** [Perhaps ♗f6 was better here, going after the a-pawn. However, I didn't want to trade rooks, and thought I saw that I could easily mop up all of white's kingside pawns.] **29.h×g4 ♖×g2 30.♖f1+ ♗f6?!** [I was getting low on time here and didn't see that this loses the c5 pawn. ♔g8 didn't look very comfortable either, and ♔e8 loses the bishop to ♘d5.] **31.♘e4 ♔e7 32.♖e1 ♔f7 33.♘×c5 ♖×g4** [Black may be technically better here, but white's winning chances are fizzling away

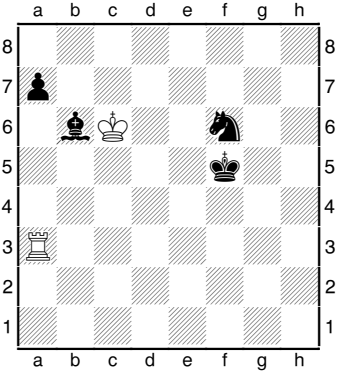
with each pawn trade.] **34.♘e4 ♖g2 35.a4** [This loses the a−pawn, but white will gain time for the c−pawn to advance. Still, I think ♖a1, ♖e2, or ♘×f6 all make more sense here. Reynolds was probably trying to win this position, given my time trouble and lower rating.] **35...♖a2 36.♘d6+** [This is a useful way to sideline black's king from the coming battle for the c−pawn.] **36...♔g6 37.♖g1+ ♔h5 38.c5 ♖a3+ 39.♔c4 ♖×a4+ 40.♔b5 ♖a2 41.♖c1 ♗e5 42.♘e8** [♘f7 seems stronger, hitting the bishop with tempo and leaving more scope for the knight..] **42...g5** [Trying to preserve my pawns. I was not worried about the c−pawn, as I saw a tactical trick to trap the knight on the rim.] **43.c6 ♖b2+ 44.♔a6 ♖b8 45.c7 ♖×e8 46.c8♕ ♖×c8 47.♖×c8 ♗d4** [At this point I thought the



win would be easy. My bishop protects both the a−pawn and the queening square. However, it was very difficult to find a winning line, thanks to all of white's rook checks. I was quite surprised when the tablebase said this is a drawn posi−tion.] **48.♖d8 ♗b6 49.♖h8+ ♔g4 50.♖g8 ♔f4 51.♖f8+ ♔g3 52.♔b5 g4 53.♔c4 ♔h2 54.♔d3 g3 55.♔e2** [There was no way to stop white's king from getting so close to the pawn.] **55...♗d4 56.♖f4 g2** [The good news: the pawn will be promot−ing!] **57.♔f3** [The bad news: not to a queen!] **57...g1♘+** [Promote to any other piece and black is mated next move with ♖h4. Still, I thought this had to be winning. But the tablebase tells me this position is a draw as well. Black's terrible king position makes all the difference.]



58.♔e4 ♔g3 59.♖f7 ♗b6 60.♔d5 ♘f3 61.♖g7+ ♔f4 62.♖g6 ♗f2 63.♖g2 ♗e3 64.♖a2 ♘e5 65.♖a4+ ♔f5 66.♖e4 ♗f4 67.♖a4 ♗e3 68.♖e4 ♘g4 69.♖a4 ♘f6+ 70.♔c6 ♘e4 71.♖a3 ♗b6 72.♔d5 ♘f6+ 73.♔c6 [Black seems to have made some progress, but this is still a draw. Nonethe−less, definitely worth pressing for the win, especially with a chance to try to execute the rare and difficult knight and bishop checkmate!]

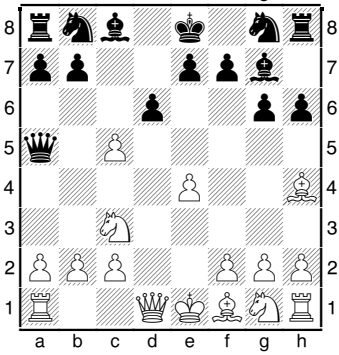


73...♔e5 74.♖a2 ♘e4 75.♖b2 ♗d4 76.♖b5+ ♔e6 77.♖b4 ♔e5 78.♖b5+ ♔f4 79.♖b4 ♗e3? [This just loses my knight and seals the draw for white. ♔e3 would have retained some practical chances.] **80.♔d5 ♗b6** [We agreed to a draw after a full 80 moves. A frustrating draw for me, as I was all but certain I was winning with my bishop and two pawns. But it's some

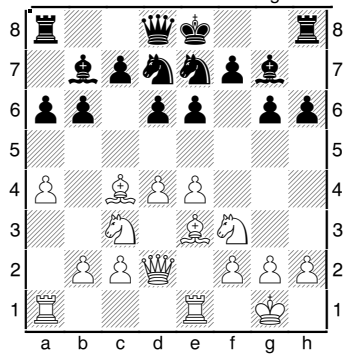
consolation knowing that Stockfish could-n't even force a win in this ending. Robert deserves a lot of credit for his defense here.]
½-½

Annotated by GM Alex Yermolinsky

Yermolinsky,Alex − Brooks,Michael [B06] (5), 20.08.2017
Just like in the last year's edition of the Iowa Open Mike and I meet in the last round money game. He won a very nice game then, and now it's my turn to try. **1.d4 g6!?** [As a draw would leave us out of prize money, Mike is not interested in playing a "correct" defense. It is "all-in".] **2.e4 d6 3.♘c3 ♗g7 4.♗g5!?** [Normally I like this system against the regular Pirc Defense, but here this move is more questionable, as Black may decide to go for the old Ujtelki System, where the pawn goes to h6 anyway.] **4...h6!?** [A lot of people like 4...a6 5.♕d2 *(5.a4 ♘d7 6.♗c4 c5 7.d×c5 ♘×c5 8.♘ge2* Henriquez Villagra−Fressinet, World Rapid 2016.*)* 5...♘d7 6.f4 b5 7.♘f3 ♗b7 8.0-0-0 b4 9.♘d5 ♗×d5 10.e×d5 ♘gf6 Kovalev−Smirin, 2017; 4...c6 5.♕d2 b5 6.f4 ♘d7 may be considered the main line.] **5.♗e3** [Objectively speaking 5.♗h4 is a better move, but I was concerned with 5...c5!? 6.d×c5 ♕a5

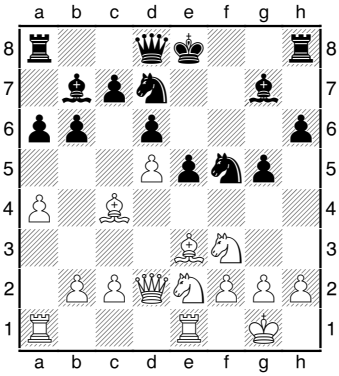


An interesting idea, played by GM Gawain Jones 7.♕d2 should be the normal reaction. (On 7.♗b5+ Black has 7...♗d7 *(7...♘c6 8.♘ge2 d×c5* Sukandar−Jones, 2012*)* as 8.♗×d7+ ♘×d7 9.c×d6 ♗×c3+ 10.b×c3 ♕×c3+ 11.♔f1 ♕c4+ 12.♕d3 ♖c8 gives Black excellent chances in the endgame where White's pawns are weak.) 7...♗×c3! This is totally critical. *(7...♕×c5 8.♗d3 ♘f6 9.f4 ♘c6 10.♘ge2* would transpose to Yermolinsky−Gulko, US Championship 1996, the game I managed to win.*)* 8.b×c3 g5 9.♗g3 ♕×c5 10.♕d4 ♕×d4 11.c×d4 f5 with complex play.] **5...♘d7 6.♕d2 a6** [Once again, White is put to the test: is he going to castle long right into the black pawn storm or is he going to restrain his own possibilities?] **7.a4** [I chose the latter. The implications of a2-a4 are obvious: White is no longer able to castle long.] **7...e6 8.♘f3 b6 9.♗c4 ♘e7** [This is the Ujtelki System, named after a Czech IM who would play it against anyone, including twice against Spassky! OK, he lost both times, but he also beat Matulovic, Nezhmetdinov and Kholmov with it! 9...♘gf6 10.d5 e×d5 *(10...e5!?* is more in the spirit of Black's setup.*)* 11.♗×d5 ♘×d5 12.e×d5 illustrates White's main idea. In a slightly more open position Black is hampered by the h6-pawn, which doesn't allow him to castle.] **10.0-0 ♗b7 11.♖fe1!** [I found this idea a few years ago while analyzing a game I lost to Vadim Milov in the Canadian Open 2007]

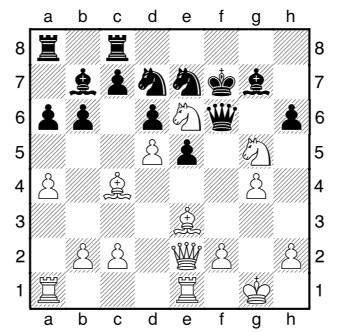


11...g5 [A logical step forward. Obviously, 11...d5 loses to 12.e×d5 e×d5 13.♘×d5 ♘×d5 14.♗g5+; I wonder if anyone would be

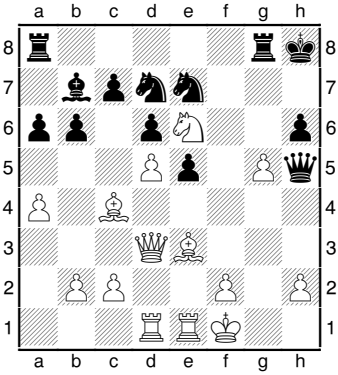
willing to look at 11...c6!?] **12.d5!** [Now White begins to fight for the light squares.] **12...e5** [12...♗×c3 was mentioned by Mike after the game, but I didn't think he was serious. After 13.♕×c3 e5 14.h4 g4 15.♘h2 h5 16.♘f1 ♘g6 17.g3 White stands better.] **13.♘e2 f5!?** [Very principled play. On 13...0-0 White switches tracks to 14.h4! g4 15.♘h2] **14.e×f5 ♘×f5**



[Here comes my star move.] **15.♘ed4!** [That rook on e1 plays the key role.] **15...♕f6 16.♘e6 ♔f7** [In reply to 16...g4 White has the same motif again, 17.♘fd4! e×d4 18.♘×g7+ ♔f7 19.♘×f5+-] **17.♕e2 ♖hc8 18.g4!?** [I admit getting caught in the heat of the battle. There was no real need for White to push the pawn off his king. A healthy strategy would be to occupy the e4-square, 18.♘d2 ♔g8 19.♘e4 ♕g6 and then possibly look into 20.♕g4 ♘f8 21.♘×g7 ♔×g7 22.♘g3] **18...♘e7** [This was not a blunder, as Mike saw my idea coming. I anticipated 18...♘×e3 19.f×e3 ♔g8 20.♘d2 ♕e7 21.♘e4 ♘f8 22.♘g3] **19.♘f×g5+**



19...Kg8! [Played instantly! 19...h×g5 20.♗×g5 ♕g6 21.♗d3 was the point of my play.] **20.♘×g7 ♔×g7 21.♘e6+?!** [I just couldn't stop pushing everything forward. Once again, 21.♘e4 ♕g6 22.♖ad1 was a more solid choice.] **21...♔h8 22.g5 ♖g8 23.♔f1?** [Switching to positional tracks was no longer an option. The only way to justify what I had done to my position was 23.♕g4 ♘×d5 24.♖ad1] **23...♕f7** [23...♕f5 24.♕h5] **24.♕d3 ♕h5** [24...♘f8! 25.♘×c7 ♖c8 26.♗×b6 ♖×g5 would have completely turned the tables. With a black knight arriving in f4 in a matter of moves. White would find his king in deep trouble.] **25.♖ad1**



25...h×g5?! [This just feels wrong. 25...b5 26.♗a2 doesn't change much,; but 25...♘f8! remains critical: 26.♘×c7 ♖c8 27.♗×b6 ♘d7 28.a5 ♖×g5 29.♖e3 ♘f5 30.♖h3 ♕g4 is one giant mess of a position.] **26.♗×g5 ♘c5??** [An abrupt end of the game that could have gone either way. 26...♖×g5! 27.♘×g5 ♘c5 28.♕h3 ♕×h3+ 29.♘×h3 ♘×a4 would have given Black some compensation: 30.♗b3 ♘c5 31.♗a2 a5 32.♘f4 *(32.f4 ♖f8 33.♔g2 ♗c8)* 32...♖f8 33.♘d3±] **27.♗f6+**
1-0

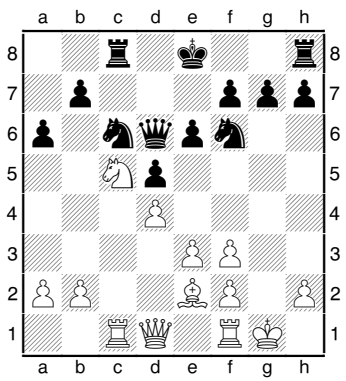
Neal II,James Alex (2250) − Kannappan, Priyadhashan (2599) [C54] (5), 20.08.17
1.e4 e5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.♗c4 ♘f6 4.d3 ♗c5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d5 7.e×d5 ♘×d5 8.♖e1 ♗g4 9.♘bd2 ♘b6 10.♗b5 ♗d6 11.♘e4 f5 12.♕b3+ ♔h8 13.♘eg5 ♗×f3 14.♘×f3 ♕f6 15.a4 ♘a5 16.♕a2 a6

17.♗c4 e4 18.♘d2 ♘a×c4 19.d×c4 ♘d7 20.♘f1 ♘c5 21.♗e3 ♘d3 22.♗d4 ♕g6 23.c5 ♘×e1 24.♖×e1 ♗f4 25.♘e3 ♕f7 26.♕×f7 ♖×f7 27.♘d5 ♗h6 28.♗e5 c6 29.♘b6 ♖e8 30.♘c4 ♔g8 31.♘d6 0-1

Annotations by IM Sean Nagle

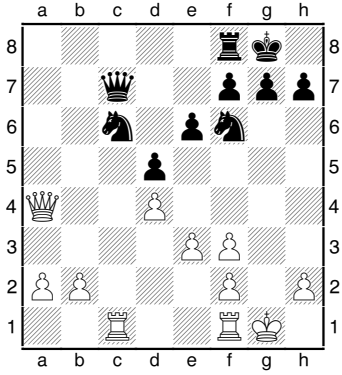
Gareyev,Timur (2697) − Nagle,Sean (2560) [D13] (5), 20.08.2017

After winning the 2016 Iowa Open (together with IM Michael Brooks), I was pleased to accept Mark Capron's invitation to return for the 2017 edition. The 2017 Iowa Open was even stronger than its predecessor, with a field including GMs Timur Gareyev, Alex Yermolinsky, and Priyadharshan Kannappan, IM Brooks, and WGM Camilla Baginskaite. Brooks and I were unable to defend our titles, as Gareyev breezed through the tournament with a perfect 5-0. I played the following game against Gareyev on board 1 in round 5. I was trailing Gareyev by half a point, having drawn with Brooks in round 4. **1.d4 d5?!** [In hindsight, this may have been my first mistake. A lifelong King's Indian player, I opted to play a Slav for the first time in my tournament career against a quite formidable opponent! I had seen Timur's recent games in the Slav against fellow Minnesotans IM John Bartholomew (in the Twin Ports Open in Duluth, MN the week before the Iowa Open) and Dr. Oke Iwu (in round 3 of the Iowa Open), and I was happy to face the lines Timur had played in those games.] **2.c4 c6 3.c×d5!?** [This move was very effective for psychological reasons. First, it is an entirely different variation than Timur played against Bartholomew and Iwu. Second, I enjoy playing the White side of the Exchange Slav.] **3...c×d5 4.♘f3 ♘f6 5.♘c3 ♘c6 6.♗f4 a6 7.♖c1 ♗f5 8.e3 ♖c8 9.♗e2 e6 10.0-0 ♗d6 11.♗×d6 ♕×d6 12.♘a4** [So far, so good. I knew we had both played relatively standard moves until this point, but suddenly I couldn't quite remember what to do next...] **12...♗g4?!** [This is a great example of knowing just enough to be dangerous to yourself. Of course 12...O-O is the most natural move, rather than moving the bishop for the second time in the opening with 12. ...♗g4. If I had never seen the position before, I'm sure I would have chosen 12...O-O. However, from my limited study of the Black side of the Exchange Slav I remembered the idea of exchanging the f5-bishop for White's f3-knight in order to avoid being left with a theoretically "bad" bishop and to lessen White's control of the e5-square. Unfortunately, the simple 12...O-O is indeed better in this position. Black will play ...♗g4 later if given the chance and need not fear the possibility of White preventing the idea with h2-h3, which would lose a tempo. 12...0-0 13.♘c5 ♖c7 and Black can absorb White's pressure on the queenside.] **13.♘c5** [Already it is not so simple for Black to defend his queenside pawn structure. The undefended c8-rook and potential checks on the a4-e8 diagonal offer White various tactical possibilities.] **13...♗×f3 14.g×f3!?** [A very interesting



move, reasoning that the weakening of White's king position is outweighed by the pressure against Black's queenside (which is aided by White's e2-bishop).] **14...♕e7** [14...♖c7? This is the typical method of defending the b7-pawn, but here it simply loses a pawn. 15.♕a4! and there is no defense against 16.♘×b7.] **15.♕b3** [15.♘×a6! This suggestion of the computer went completely unnoticed by me in the game.

If Black captures the knight, we will reach a similar position as occurs in the game, with White having a rook and two strong pawns against Black's two knights. The computer recommends Black ignore the knight with 15...O−O, accepting his fate of being down a pawn but hoping for compensation in the form of White's weakened kingside pawn structure.] **15...♖c7?** [15...♖b8! 16.♕a4 0-0!= and surprisingly White has nothing concrete.] **16.♗×a6!** [Much like 15.♘×a6, I had completely failed to consider this move. Timur thought for quite a long time before playing 16.♗×a6, and it proved to be time well spent. It's impressive that, as the higher rated player with everything to lose, Timur decided to trust his judgment and plunge into complications.] **16...b×a6** [16...0-0!? is the computer's recommendation. Black offers another pawn on b7 and pins his hopes on kingside counterplay after the forthcoming ... e6-e5.] **17.♘×a6 0-0?** [⌓17...♖c8 18.♖×c6! ♖×c6 19.♕b5 0-0 20.♕×c6 e5± With only vague threats against the White king as compensation for his two−pawn deficit, Black is still much worse−−probably losing −−but it's not quite as bad as the game.] **18.♘×c7 ♕×c7 19.♕a4+-** [Black is tied in

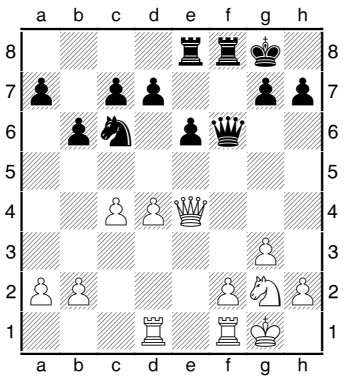


knots on the c−file and the White pawns will advance very quickly.] **19...♖c8 20.b4** [20.♖c3 ♕b7 21.♖fc1 ♘e7 22.♖×c8+ ♘×c8 23.♕c6 ♕×c6 24.♖×c6 is an even cleaner win for White. By exchanging queens, White has eliminated all of Black's counterplay, resulting in a simple endgame where the knights are no match for the rook and connected passed pawns.] **20...♕b7 21.b5 ♘e7 22.♖×c8+ ♘×c8 23.♖c1 ♘d6 24.♕a6 ♕e7 25.b6 ♘fe8 26.a4 ♔f8 27.a5 ♕g5+ 28.♔f1 ♕h5 29.♔e2 g5 30.b7 ♘×b7 31.♕×b7 g4** [White is way up on material and a handful of accurate moves by Timur never leave any doubt about the outcome.] **32.♕b4+ ♔g7 33.♕b8 f5 34.a6 g×f3+ 35.♔d2 ♘f6 36.♕g3+ ♔h6 37.♕f4+ ♔g6 38.♖g1+ ♘g4 39.a7 ♕h4 40.♕×f3 ♕d8 41.♖a1 ♕b6 42.♕×g4+ f×g4 43.a8♕** [Timur was very gracious in analyzing the game with me afterwards. My congratulations to the deserving winner of the 2017 Iowa Open!] **1-0**

Annotated by NM Joseph Wan

Jin,Ashton (2047) − Wan,Joseph (2268)
[A40] (5), 20.08.2017
1.d4 e6 [Facing a young expert player from Minnesota in the last round, I decided to give him everything I got, and went at it hardcore with the English Defense.] **2.c4 b6** [A lot of White players get confused with this irregular setup, known as the English Defense.] **3.♘f3** [One of many variations. White prepares to fianchetto his king's bishop in this line. The main moves are either 3.♘c3 or 3.e4.] **3...♗b7 4.g3 ♗b4+ 5.♗d2** [Correctly blocking with the bishop. 5.♘bd2?! ♗×f3! 6.e×f3 ♕f6! 7.a3 *(7.♕b3? ♘c6 8.♗g2 ♘×d4 9.♕d3 ♕e5+ 10.♔d1* later 0-1 in A. Saleem (2110)− J. Wan (2060), 2015 Port of Dubuque Open.*)* 7...♗×d2+ 8.♗×d2 ♕×d4 9.♗c3 ♕×d1+ 10.♖×d1 f6 later 0-1 in M. Berger (2022)− J. Wan (2247), 2017 SuperNationals.] **5...♗×d2+ 6.♘b×d2 f5 7.♗g2 ♘f6 8.0-0 0-0 9.♕c2 ♕e7 10.♘e1** [White wants to trade off the light−squared bishops and then play the advance e4, which will leave White with an unchallenged center.] **10...♗×g2 11.♘×g2 ♘c6 12.♕d3 ♖ae8 13.e4?** [This move should've lost a pawn, if I had spotted a tricky tactic. e4 is a thematic advance for White, but unfortunately for him it is at the wrong time.] **13...f×e4?!**

[13...♕d6! 14.e×f5 ♘×d4 15.♖fd1 *(15.f×e6 ♖×e6 16.♔h1 ♘g4∓* Black is dominating.*)* 15...e×f5∓ Black is up a clear pawn.] **14.♘×e4 ♘×e4 15.♕×e4 ♕f6 16.♖ad1** [I thought for a great deal of time here, trying to come up with a way to break through. If



I do nothing, White will bring his knight to "e3" and start to prepare d5 or f4 to further cramp me.] **16...e5!** [Showing I am not afraid of 17.d5. Breaking at the center prevents f4 for the time being, and leaves the White knight looking like an idiot on "g2".] **17.d5 ♘d8!** [The point. Black will re-route his knight to either "d6" or "g5", where he will potentially glare down at holes such as "f3", and may support the advance ... e4 once the queen vacates that square.] **18.♘e3 ♘f7 19.♘g4 ♕d8 20.h4** [Preventing ... ♘g5, but there is another square that the knight can go to! Aiming for "d4", I play...] **20...♘d6!** [This knight was one of my favorite pieces in this game, causing a boatload of trouble for the White pieces.] **21.♕e2 ♘f5** [Now threatening 22... ♘d4 and I look at the hole on "f3" with contempt.] **22.♘h2?!** [One of the most passive ways ever to be invented to defend "f3". A better alternative is 22.♕e4 repeating was the best move. 22...♕e7 23.a3 ♘d6 24.♕c2 e4∓ Black is still slightly better.] **22...♕f6** [Now the queen makes a reappearance.] **23.♘g4 ♕g6 24.h5** [Literally the only move to temporarily save material loss. 24.♕e4? ♘×g3 25.♕×g6 ♘e2+ 26.♔h1 h×g6 27.♖de1 ♖f4∓; 24.b3?? ♘d4-+; 24.♘h2? ♘×h4-+] **24...♕g5** [24...♕×h5?? 25.♘f6+ ♖×f6 26.♕×h5+-] **25.♘h2 e4** [Now ... e3 would be decisive, so White acts quick.] **26.♕g4 ♕f6 27.♖d2 ♖f7** [The point of this move was to protect "d7" so that the knight can move to either "h6" and kick the queen, or "d4" to be annoying.] **28.♕f4 ♕d8 29.♕g4** [Yay! Wasting time, that's what I like to see. White has basically shown that he's given up, but he wants me to show him the win.] **29...♘h6** [First the queen is evicted back into passivity.] **30.♕e2 ♕g5** [Black's queen makes a third entrance on the battlefield from "d8", this time threatening the deadly advance 30... e3.] **31.g4??** [This should've lost on the spot. 31.♖d4 e3 32.♔g2 ♕e5 33.♖h4 ♖ef8 34.♕×e3 ♕×b2 35.♖e4 ♕×a2∓] **31...e3?!** [Winning, but not the best. 31...♘×g4!! 32.♘×g4 *(32.♕×g4 ♕×d2-+)* 32...♖f3!!-+ White must either give up his queen or be checkmated.] **32.f×e3 ♖×e3 33.♕g2 ♖×f1+** [33...♘f5!? a very interesting possibility that I was considering. 34.♘f3 *(34.g×f5 ♖g3-+)* 34...♖×f3 35.♖×f3 ♘h4 36.♖×f7 ♘×g2 37.♖df2! h6 38.♖f8+ ♔h7 39.♖×g2 ♕c1+∓ I considered this, but it isn't as good as my chosen move.] **34.♔×f1??** [Now I win several pawns and the game. 34.♘×f1 ♖e1 35.♖d4 ♕e5 36.♕d2 ♘f7-+ Black will still win, but its a tougher fight.] **34...♕f4+** [Forking a billion pawns.] **35.♕f2 ♕×c4+ 36.♔g1 ♕e4** [36... ♘×g4 was more winning, but with five minutes left on the clock, I didn't want to deal with ♕h4 and d8 ideas. 36...♘×g4 37.♕h4 ♕c1+ 38.♘f1 ♖f3 39.♕d8+ ♖f8-+] **37.♕g2 ♖e1+ 38.♘f1 ♕×g4 39.♕×g4 ♘×g4** [The game ends shortly.] **40.♔g2 d6 41.♖d4 ♘f6 42.♔f2 ♖e5 43.♘e3 ♖×h5 44.♖c4 ♘×d5 45.♘×d5 ♖×d5 46.♖×c7 a5 47.♔e3 h5** [and White, being three pawns down in a rook endgame, resigned here.]

0-1

Chess is not always about winning. Sometimes it's simply about learning, and so is life. — Anon

Schmakel Earns IM Norm in First Minnesota GM Norm Tournament

By Bill Broich, NTD, IA

The first round-robin norm tournament ever held in Minnesota took place at Crowne Plaza in Plymouth, MN from August 23rd to August 27th 2017. GM Wesley So was on hand to make the ceremonial first move. FA David Kuhns of the Minnesota State Chess Association (MSCA) organized the event. Kuhns also served as the deputy arbiter while IA Bill Broich was the chief arbiter.

GM Vladimir Georgiev and IM Sean Nagel tied for first place with 5.5 points. Four players tied for second with 5 points each including FM Sam Schmakel who needed 4.5 points for an IM norm. At certain junctures during this tournament different players were on track to earn a GM norm, only to see their chances slip away. The event was truly an epic struggle among a group of players whose FIDE ratings ranged from 2341 to 2563.

Seven players, IM John Bartholomew, IM John Burke, IM Sean Nagel, FM Sam Schmakel, FM Gauri Shanker, IM Andrew Tang, and FM Kevin Wang all needed 6.5 points to earn a GM norm. Shanker and Wang have earned their IM norms but have yet to achieve a rating of 2400 to apply for the IM title. With seven players competing for norms, the field was very competitive.

After round three, Tang lead with 2.5 points. Tang, a local teenager, was the crowd favorite with local youngsters hoping to see him win the event. Other local IMs, Bartholomew and Nagel both had three draws each. GM Georgiev also had 2.5 points after 3 rounds.

Tang had a tough day for round four and five drawing FM Wang and losing to the top rated GM Kolev. After round five, Burke and Georgiev both had 3.5 points while Tang and Schmakel had 3 points each. With two days and four rounds left in the tournament Bartholomew had 2.5 points and Nagel had only 2 points. Bartholomew needed to win his last 4 games to earn a norm while Nagel's chances were already extinguished.

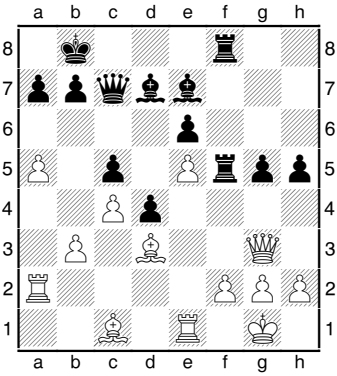
Rounds six and seven ended GM norm chances for all seekers other than Schmakel. In the sixth round Tang's chances were terminated losing a winning position to Schmakel. Bartholomew lost to Kolev, ending his chances. Burke drew in round six against Wang and lost in round seven to Schmakel ending his quest for a GM norm. Schmakel won games 6 and 7 to enter the final day of the event with 5 points, and achieved his second IM norm with two rounds to spare! He needed a draw and a win to earn a GM norm on the final day of this hotly contested event. The second lowest rated player in the tournament, Shankar, defeated Schmakel ending his chances for a GM norm in round eight.

Overcoming a slow start Nagle caught up with Georgiev to tie for first. Georgiev had 2 wins and 7 draws and while Nagle had 3 wins, 5 draws and a loss. The last day was Georgiev's birthday and he received a nice prize check as a gift. Players playing with the white pieces won 15 games while players playing with the black pieces won 9 games. Twenty one games ended in a draw. Wang gained 28 FIDE rating points while Mitkov lost 22 rating points. Congratulations to all who competed in this tournament. We would like to thank the overwhelming support from the local chess community, and their relatives and friends. More norm tournaments are being planned for the future.

Mitkov,Nikola - Nagle,Sean [B11]
MN GM Norm Tournament (7), 26.08.2017
[Nagle,Sean]

1.e4 c6 2.♘c3 d5 3.♘f3 ♘f6 4.e5 ♘e4 5.♗e2 ♘×c3 6.b×c3 c5 7.a4 ♘c6 8.♗a3 e6 9.0-0 ♗d7 10.♖e1 ♕c7 11.♗f1 0-0-0 12.♕c1 f6 13.d4 f×e5 14.d×e5 ♗e7 15.♕e3 ♘a5 16.♗c1 h6 17.♘d2 ♖hf8 18.♘b3 ♖f7 [18...♔b8 was an interesting prophylactic idea, preparing ...♖c8 to de-

fend the c5-pawn after 19.♗a3.] **19.♗a3** [Now Black is forced to exchange knights, straightening out White's queenside pawns.] **19...♘×b3 20.c×b3 ♖df8∓** [Even though White no longer has shattered pawns on the queenside, Black's position is still slightly preferable due to his pressure on the f-file and the obvious plan of throwing his kingside pawns forward.] **21.♖a2** [A nice defensive move, taking advantage of the transformation of the queenside pawn structure on move 20.] **21...♔b8 22.♕g3 ♕d8 23.♕h3 ♕b6 24.c4** [Defending the b3-pawn laterally with the queen from h3.] **24...d4** [On balance, I was happy with this change in the pawn structure. While White has gained access to the e4-square for his pieces, Black has obtained a nice diagonal for his d7-bishop and a potentially powerful passed pawn on d4.] **25.♗c1** [A good move. The bishop no longer served a function on the queenside.] **25...♖f5 26.a5 ♕c7 27.♕g3 g5 28.♗d3 h5!?** [During the game, I was very pleased with this move, and my opponent agreed that Black's exchange sacrifice was very strong. The



computer disagrees and prefers the calm 28...♖5f7. Still, I think this illustrates an important distinction between humans and computers. Black's position is undeniably "easier" to play after the exchange sacrifice, particularly in light of White's looming time trouble. Computers don't take such psychological factors into account.] **29.♗×f5 ♖×f5 30.h4? g×h4 31.♕g8+ ♖f8 32.♕h7 ♕d8 33.♕×h5 ♖h8 34.♕g4 ♖g8 35.♕h5 ♕f8 36.♖e4 ♗c6 37.♖g4 ♖h8 38.♕g6 h3 39.f4 h×g2 40.♖a×g2 ♗×g2 41.♔×g2?** [41.♖×g2=] **41...♕c8!** [Black's queen begins inching towards the White king.] **42.♕e4 ♕e8 43.♕f3 ♕h5 + 44.♔f1 ♕h7 45.a6** [A good move, destabilizing Black's king position. In all honesty, I think both of us failed to consider this move at any point over the last 15 moves or so. White should have played it sooner, and it should have been on my radar as Black.] **45...b×a6 46.f5** [Another good move, freeing the f4-square for White's bishop. Black should have prevented this idea with 44... ♕f5 rather than 44...♕h7.] **46...e×f5 47.♗f4 ♕h1+ 48.♕×h1 ♖×h1+ 49.♖g1 ♖×g1+ 50.♔×g1** [This bishop ending is easily winning for Black according to the computer, but things were not so simple over the board due to our mutual time pressure. Neither player should be judged too harshly in what follows.] **50...♔c8 51.e6 ♔d8 52.♔g2 ♗f8?** [52...♗f6 was more natural and much stronger. 53.♗d6 d3! this is the move I had missed 54.♔f3 ♗d4-+] **53.♗g5+ ♔e8 54.♔f3 ♗d6 55.♗f6 ♔f8 56.♔e2 ♗e7 57.♗e5 ♔g8 58.♔d3 a5 59.♗b8 a6 60.♗c7 ♔g7 61.♗×a5?** [⩲61.♗e5+] **61...♔f6 62.b4?** [A typical time pressure mistake; lashing out in a bid for counterplay only hastens White's demise.] **62...c×b4 63.♔×d4 ♔×e6 64.c5 b3 65.♔c3 ♗×c5 66.♔×b3** [And finally we arrive at a position that is easily winning for Black, even in time trouble. The two critical factors enabling this assessment are that Black's pawns are separated by so many files (meaning White's king can't guard both pawns simultaneously) and that Black's bishop controls the a1-square.] **66...♔d5 67.♗c7 ♗d6 68.♗b6 f4 69.♔a4 f3 70.♗f2 ♗c5 71.♗g3 ♔c6** [And White resigned since Black is in time to safeguard the a-pawn, which will win the game after White is forced to give up his bishop for the f-pawn.]
0-1

Left: IM Andrew Tang, IM Sean Nagel, IM John Bartholomew, FM Kevin Wang, GM Wesley So, IM John Burke, FA David Kuhns, IA Bill Broich, FM Gauri Shanker, GM Nikola Mitkov, GM Vladimir Georgiev, GM Atanas Kolev, FM Sam Schmakel. Right: IA Bill Broich, Chief Arbiter, Sam Schmakel (earned second IM norm), FA David Kuhns, Deputy Arbiter

US Champion, Minnesota super GM Wesley So making the ceremonial first move on board 1. FM Sam Schmakel (earned second IM norm) vs co-winner Minnesota IM Sean Nagle

#	Player	St	Pre	Post	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	T
1	Georgiev, Vladimi	IL	2583*	2588*	D10	W7	W6	D5	D9	D2	D3	D8	D4	5.5
2	Nagle, Sean M	MN	2554*	2564*	D5	D9	D4	D3	L8	D1	W10	W7	W6	5.5
3	Kolev, Atanas Iva		2636*	2624*	L6	L5	W9	D2	W4	W8	D1	D10	D7	5.0
4	Tang, Andrew	MN	2589*	2586*	W9	W10	D2	D7	L3	L6	D8	W5	D1	5.0
5	Burke, John Micha	NJ	2563*	2564*	D2	W3	D8	D1	W10	D7	L6	L4	W9	5.0
6	Schmakel, Sam A	IL	2491*	2506*	W3	D8	L1	W10	D7	W4	W5	L9	L2	5.0
7	Wang, Kevin	MD	2431*	2450*	D8	L1	W10	D4	D6	D5	W9	L2	D3	4.5
8	Bartholomew, John	MN	2549*	2540*	D7	D6	D5	L9	W2	L3	D4	D1	D10	4.0
9	Shankar, Gauri	IL	2436*	2435*	L4	D2	L3	W8	D1	L10	L7	W6	L5	3.0
10	Mitkov, Nikola	IL	2537*	2510*	D1	L4	L7	L6	L5	W9	L2	D3	D8	2.5

Zootacular 2017

By Paul Rafac

On Saturday, September 16, my alarm went off at 5:00 in the morning. I stirred in bed, questioning the logic in my decision to stay up until 1:00 the night before, and somehow managed to get ready to leave by 6:00.

Outside, I met with Eric Vigil, his two sons, and Daniel Brashaw for our two-hour drive from Iowa City to Des Moines. There aren't many things that can get a college student up before noon on a weekend, let alone before the brink of dawn, but for me, chess is one of them.

This was to be my first rated chess tournament. I played in IHSA (Illinois High School Association) sponsored tournaments throughout high school, performing fairly well, but I had not competed in over three years. Since then, I have been focused on school: getting good grades and graduating on time.

My love of chess has never wavered; however, as I began to play more and more blitz and bullet games online, my feel for over the board chess faded further and further into memory – so much so that when I found Eric promoting the Hawkeye Chess Club, I knew I was in.

That's how I met Eric: sitting in front of a chessboard. The familiar 64 squares and 32 pieces immediately bespoke familiarity. We met a few times after that, but honestly, when he picked me up at 6:00 that Saturday morning, I had no idea where I was going. I even texted one of my friends to let him know what I was doing. All I knew was that I was going to play chess, and that was good enough for me.

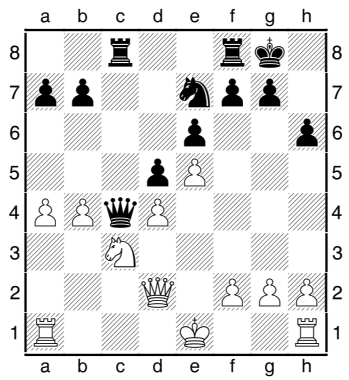
When we pulled up to Blank Park Zoo around 8:30, the five of us made our way into the park to set up boards and clocks under the pavilion. A zoo seemed like a strange place for a chess tournament, but with the primary focus being the scholastic portion, not the open, it worked out well.

The scholastic tournament had 37 players in it, and, while it rained on and off the whole day, the kids remained just as happy as the animals (screaming). After five rounds, with 30 minute, 5 second delay time controls, the top scoring student from each grade level received a trophy – with everyone else welcome to a stuffed animal of their choosing.

I participated in the open, happening some five feet away, with 11 other players. For most of the week leading up to it, I was freaking out. I contacted a friend in the chess world for any advice he could give me; "Just try to stay relaxed and play how you usually do. Just try to play your best and don't worry about the results."

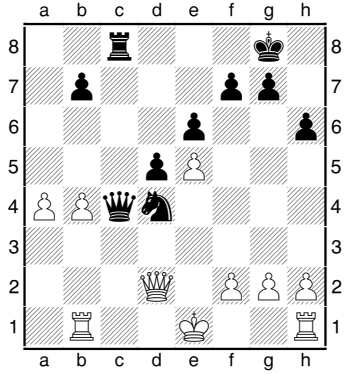
Sage advice, but with that being said, I wanted to win at least one game. I told myself if I could walk away with two points, I would be happy. The open was a four-round event, with 40 minute, 5 second delay time controls. When the first round began, I took a deep breath, and just played chess.

In my first-round game I played black in an advanced French. After eighteen moves, we reached the following position:



I felt that I had an advantage, although I

knew there was more game to be played after 19.♘e2. Up to that point, I had prevented my opponent from castling, but was not sure what sequence of moves to play next. When my opponent responded by playing **19.♘b5**, I was shocked. I knew he was gunning for my rook on c8, but in playing aggressively he had lost his last chance to bring his h1 rook into the game and castle. After **19. ... ♘f5 20. ♘×a7** (another mistake) **20. ... ♘×d4 21. ♘×c8 ♖×c8**, I knew I was winning. I still had to find the right sequence of moves, but I had a plan. After 22. Rb1 (the only move to save the rook), I regrettably deviated from my original plan. After a quick analysis, it is clear what move is best for black.



If you found 22. … ♘c2+! You are correct. And truth be told, this is what I originally had planned. After 22. ... ♘c2+, 23. ♔d1 d4 24. ♖c1 d3, white's king is in a cage. If white tries 25.♖e1, hoping to bring his h1 rook into the game, black has 22. ... ♕b3 with the threat of ♘e3#. I, however, on move 22, gave white a chance to give back the exchange with **22. ... ♘b3**. I knew that on any queen move other than e2 or e3, I had ♕e4+ hitting the rook on b1 and in some lines threating ♖c2. On ♕e2 or e3, I had ♕×b4+ with a winning position. If my opponent had played ♖×b3, I would have had to go pawn grabbing and play out the rest of the game.

After **22. ... ♘b3**. My opponent played **23. ♕e2 ♕×b4+ 24. ♔d1 ♕×a4**, and blundered shortly thereafter due to time pressure.

My other games weren't as exciting. In round two I lost due to blunders in time pressure after a long-fought battle (where I was wining). In game three I went up early in material, managing to checkmate my opponent before move 30. In game four I won two pawns out of the opening, and after having to play defensively much of the game when my king found himself stuck in the middle of the board, I eventually, was able to simplify the position to a won endgame.

As an unrated player, I won three games and lost one – placing in third, and tying overall for second. It was a little surreal, and I had a lot more fun than I thought I would. Yes, winning played a part in it, but I knew that I played well and that my ideas were what made each game so fun.

A couple days after the tournament, I still felt pretty darn good – that is of course until I went back to analyze my games and found all the mistakes only a computer (or a better chess player) could see. It hurt a little to know that I had missed a couple tactics, or to see how I blundered a won endgame away, but I was still happy with how I played. I have more work to do with chess, and now that I've seen my mistakes, I am excited to enter more tournaments. So long as I stay calm and play chess, I am sure to enjoy myself no matter what the result; that, and if I can finish all my homework and sleep in the following morning.

The highest art of the chessplayer lies in not allowing your opponent to show you what he can do.- Garry Kasparov

In almost any position the boundless possibilities of chess enable a new or at least a little studied continuation to be found. — Petrosian

Iowa Chess Hall of Fame

I will start off with an apology for accidently leaving out one of the most prolific players in Iowa History, Dan Harger, when discussing most championships. As Mitch Weiss states: you left out Iowa's King Dan Harger! with at least 9 titles.

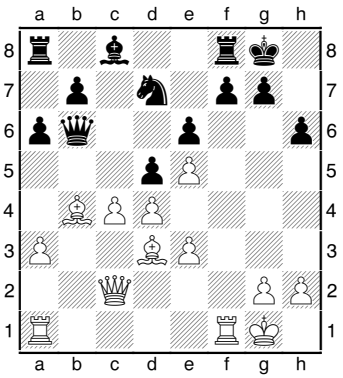
Mitch also suggests that I be nominated. Thank you Mitch it would be an honor to be among the great players, organizers, and directors that deserve this Hall of Fame.

New & Returning Members

	FIRST	LAST	CITY	STATE
pat	Benjamin	Darr	Dubuque	IA
	Dong	Banh	Ankeny	IA
	Tanner	Brownell	Vinton	IA
	Don	Bruemmer	Davenport	IA
	Nathan	Chen	Coralville	IA
	Payton	Chihak	Cedar Rapids	IA
	Kunal	Chugh	Asbury	IA
pat	Tim	Crouse	Boone	IA
pat	Benjamin	Darr	Dubuque	IA
pat f	Ana	Denison	Ames	IA
pat f	Christine	Denison	Ames	IA
	Stan	Felgar	Argyle	IA
	Randall	Gingerich	Kalona	IA
	Rex	Gray	Ankeny	IA
	Evan	Heller	North Liberty	IA
pat	Thomas	Hesse	Cedar Falls	IA
pat	James	Hodina	Cedar Rapids	IA
	Nathan	Holzmueller	Evanston	IL
	Emily	Li	Fort Dodge	IA
	Robert	Johnson	North Liberty	IA
pat	Robert	Keating	Cedar Rapids	IA
	Tate	Kochan	Marion	IA
	Valeriy	Kosokin	Clive	IA
pat	Matthew	Kriegel	Toledo	IA
	Jodene	Kruse	Sibley	IA
	Mrithuul P	Madan Prasad	W. Des Moines	IA
pat	Trevor	Magness	Iowa City	IA
pat	Ben	Munson	Urbandale	IA
pat	Samuel	Naylor,IV	Carthage	IL
pat	Ronald	Nurmi	Des Moines	IA
	Venkat	Pathuru	W. Des Moines	IA
pat	Steven	Patterson	Marion	IA
	Zachary	Peace	Bettendorf	IA
pat	Dr. Carl	Peters	Adel	IA
	William	Polzin	Ames	IA
	Arianne	Power	Iowa City	IA
	Clive	Power	Iowa City	IA
	Josiah	Power	Iowa City	IA
	Matthew	Power	Iowa City	IA
	Joseph	Pregon	Cedar Rapids	IA
	FIRST	LAST	CITY	STATE
pat	Richard	Rector	Davenport	IA
pat	Robert	Reynolds	W. Burlington	IA
pat	Arshaq	Saleem	Iowa City	IA
	David	Sayler	Kansas City	MO
	Luke	Schaeckenbach	Coralville	IA
	Andrew	Schaeckenbach	Coralville	IA
	Jake	Schaeckenbach	Coralville	IA
	Emily	Schaeckenbach	Coralville	IA
	Caroline	Schaeckenbach	Coralville	IA
	Matthew	Schaeckenbach	Coralville	IA
	Terry	Shaw	Washington	IA
pat	Abhyudaya	Shukla	Bettendorf	IA
	March	Sutton (fam)	Solon	IA
pat f	Gokul	Thangavel	Iowa City	IA
pat f	Samathi	Thangavel	Iowa City	IA
pat	Robert	Vance	Des Moines	IA
pat f	Eric	Vigil	Iowa City	IA
	Michael	Volz	Waterloo	IA
pat	Mitch	Weiss	Mason City	IA
pat	James	White	Hiawatha	IA
	Dave	Wolz	Des Moines	IA
	Hans	Xu	Rochester	MN
pat	Illowa Club		Davenport	IA

Tan,Ying (1894) − Menon,Gauri (1740)
[E38] 63rd Iowa Open Coralville, IA (5), 20.08.2017

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 e6 3.♘c3 ♗b4 4.♕c2 c5 5.♘f3 ♘c6 6.e3 d5 7.a3 ♗×c3+ 8.b×c3 ♕a5 9.♗d3 0-0 10.0-0 a6 11.♘e5 h6 12.f4 c×d4 13.c×d4 ♘×e5 14.f×e5 ♘d7 15.♗d2 ♕b6 16.♗b4



♖e8 17.♗h7+ ♔h8 18.♖×f7 ♕d8 19.♖af1 ♕g5 20.♗f8 ♕×e3+ 21.♔h1 ♕g5 22.♗×g7+ ♕×g7 23.♖×g7 ♔×g7 24.♕g6+ ♔h8 25.♖f7 ♖g8 26.♕×g8#

1-0

2017 Iowa Blitz Championship

12/17/17

6 round double swiss (you play black and white against the same opponent. G/5 d2.

Millstream Brewing Co 835 48th Ave, Amana, IA 52203 In the warehouse.

Rounds: 1pm then ASAP

Prizes: Plaque for 1st, 6packs of beer (or root beer) for 1st thru 5th, best upset, best U1600, 1400, 1200, 1000, 800 and unrated

EF: $10 online or in the mail, $15 onsite.

Reg: 12:10 to 1 p.m.

Send Entry Fee to: Eric G. Vigil 445 Galway Dr, Iowa City Ia 52246 or https://onlineregistration.cc/

Additional Info: Hey, this is a fun event. People love coming out to the Brewery, the folks at Millstream have been soooooooo supportive of the IASCA I can't thank Teresa the Advertising and Promotions representative at Millstream enough.

Contact info: evigil@gmail.com

2017-2018 Qualifier Point Standings

Player	TOTAL	# of Events
Daniel Brashaw	N/A	0
James Neal	33	3
Robert Keating	20	3
Robert Reynolds	17.5	2
Michael Takahashi	17	3
Joseph Wan	15.75	1
Valeriy Kosokin	15.75	1
William Polzin	11.5	2
Thomas Gaul	9.5	3
Arshaq Saleem	9	1
Nathan Chen	9	1
Gokul Thangavel	8.8	2
Tim Crouse	8.5	2
Austin Scharosch	5.5	1
Barry Vigil	5.5	1
John Trunnell	4	1

Player	TOTAL	# of Events
Benjamin Darr	3.8	2
Daniel Carson	2	1
Roger Alexander	2	2
Thomas Hesse	2	2
James Hodina	1.8	1
Randall Gingerich	1.8	1
Trevor Magness	1.8	1

Chess helps you to concentrate, improve your logic. It teaches you to play by the rules and take responsibility for your actions, how to problem solve in an uncertain environment. — Garry Kasparov

Iowa Chess En Passant
c/o Mark Capron
3123 Juniper Dr.
Iowa City, IA 52245

www.iowa-chess.org

Randall Gingerich as white vs. Jasmin Zulic at the Iowa Open.